Coll. F280

FAYETTEVILLE OBSERVER.

VOL. XLVII.] FAYETTEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA, JANUARY 4, 1864 [NO. 2430.

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EDWARD J. HALE & SONS,
EDITORS AND PROPRIETORS.

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SPECIAL NOTICE.

From and after this date, no name of a new subscriber will be entered without payment in advance, nor will the paper be sent to such subscribers for a longer time than is paid for.

Such of our old subscribers as desire to take the paper on this system will please notify us when making remittances.

Jan'y 1, 1858.

RUN THE BLOCKADE!

W. MAC INTYRE
—Has received—

1 CASE Madder Colors Calico, 1845 yds;
1 case black and white Calico, ¼ yd wide, 1400 yds;
1 case Pillow Case Cotton, 40 in wide, 2000 yds;
2 cases English Shirting, 3500 yds;
20 pieces Black Alpaca Lustre;
200 doz Printed Lisle Handkerchiefs;
500 doz Clark's Spool Cotton, black, 200 yds;
500 doz Clark's Spool Cotton, white, 200 yds;
500 Great Gross Agate Shirt Buttons;
57 doz Fine 2, 3 and 4 Bladed Knives;
50 sets Table Knives and Forks;
800 gross Knitting Needles, assorted Nos, 10 to 16;
20 doz Drab English Hats;
8 doz No 10 Cotton Cards;
150 Expansion Skirts.

Dec'r 29, 1863 92*&sw5w

Salt! Salt!! Salt!!!

THE Subscriber will sell five hundred bushels SALT at ten dollars per Bushel, 75 per cent on cost, for cash or barter in corn and wheat, at Shallotte, Brunswick County. JOSEPH C. BROOKS

November 16 81*11tpd

Tax Payers of Richmond County.

I SHALL attend at Rockingham, Monday and Tuesday of January Court, being the 18th and 19th, for the purpose of Collecting the Tax on Cattle, Horses, Mules, &c., not employed in cultivation of the crops.

On Wednesday 20th at Little's Mills,
" Thursday 21st " Mineral Springs,
" Friday 22d " Beaver Dam,
" Tuesday 26th " McGee's,
" Wednesday 17th " Laurel Hill,
" Thursday 28th " Stewartsville,
" Friday 29th " Williamson's.

Persons owing tax are requested to meet at the above mentioned places, and pay their tax, or an additional sum will invariably be charged.

L. W. McLAURIN,
Tax Collector for Richmond County, N. C.

December 22, 1863. 92*t25Jan

One Hundred Dollars Reward.

RANAWAY on the 18th September, my negro woman JENNY, aged about 28 years, about 5 feet high, dark complexion, looks surly unless spoken to, at which time she is very pleasant. She ranaway sometime previous and was taken up in Robeson county, N. Carolina, in the neighborhood of Shoe Heel Depot, working about under the pretence of being free. She was carried off by one Lewis Oxendine, a mulatto who was hauling corn at that time, from my plantation. I will give the above reward for her delivery to me or in any Jail so that I get her. I will give one hundred dollars more for proof sufficient to convict any person of harboring her.

My address is Brownsville Post Office, Marlborough District, South Carolina. JOHN A. HODGES.

Dec 6, 1863. 89*8tpd

State of North Carolina,
ROBESON COUNTY.

Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions, Nov'r Term, 1863.

John McQueen and wife Henrietta vs Arch'd McRimmon, Jno McRimmon, Angus McCallum and wife Mary Ann, Margaret McRimmon, Harrison McRimmon and Murdoch McRimmon.

Petition for Partition of Land.

IT appearing to the satisfaction of the Court that Angus McCallum and wife Mary Ann, and Murdoch McRimmon, defendants in this cause, reside beyond the limits of this State: It is therefore ordered by the Court, that advertisement be made for six weeks successively in the Fayetteville Observer, notifying the said defendants of the filing of this petition, and that unless they appear at the next term of this Court and answer the petition the same will be taken pro confesso and heard ex parte as to them.

Witness, John A Rowland, Clerk of our said Court, at Office in Lumberton, the Fourth Monday of November 1863.

JNO. A. ROWLAND, Clk

87*6tpd

State of North Carolina,
ROBESON COUNTY.

Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions, Nov'r Term, 1863.

Sarah McLean vs John N McLean, Daniel L McLean, Neill McLeod and wife Margaret, A. A. McLean and Murdoch McLean.

Petition for Dower.

IT appearing to the satisfaction of the Court that Neill McLeod and wife Margaret, defendants in this cause, reside beyond the limits of this State: It is therefore on motion, ordered by the Court, that advertisement be made for six weeks successively in the Fayetteville Observer, notifying the said defendants of the filing of this petition, and that unless they appear at the next term of this Court and answer the petition, the same will be taken pro confesso and heard ex parte as to them.

Witness, John A Rowland, Clerk of our said Court, at Office in Lumberton, the Fourth Monday of November, 1863.

JNO. A. ROWLAND, Clk.

87*6tpd

State of North Carolina,
MOORE COUNTY.

Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, October Term, 1863.

Thomas W. Ritter, Adm'r, vs John S. Ritter and others.

Petition to sell Land.

It appearing to the satisfaction of the Court that George McIntosh and wife Susannah reside beyond the limits of this State: It is therefore ordered that publication be made for six weeks successively in the Fayetteville Observer, for them to be and appear at the next Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions to be held for the County of Moore, at the Court House in Carthage, on the 4th Monday of January next, and then and there to plead, answer or demur to said petition, or it will be heard ex parte as to them.

Witness, A. H. McNeill, Clerk of our said Court, at office, 4th Monday in October, 1863.

87*6tpd A. H. McNEILL, C. C. C.

State of North Carolina,
MOORE COUNTY

Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, Oct. Term, 1863.

Jane McDonald, Administratrix, vs. Daniel E. McDonald and others.

Petition for Account and Settlement.

IT appearing to the satisfaction of the Court, that the Defendants, Daniel E. McDonald, W. W. McDonald and John A. McDonald, reside beyond the limits of this State: It is therefore ordered that publication be made for six weeks successively in the Fayetteville Observer, for them to be and appear at our next Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, to be held for the County of Moore, at the Court House in Carthage, on the 4th Monday of January next, and then and there plead, answer or demur to said petition, or it will be heard ex parte as to them.

Witness, A. H. McNeill, Clerk of our said Court, at Office in Carthage, 4th Monday in October 1863.

87*6wpd] A. H. McNEILL, C. C. C.

State of North Carolina,
MOORE COUNTY.

Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, October Term 1863.

Nancy Oats vs W. Y. Oats and others.

Petition for Dower.

IT appearing to the satisfaction of the Court that John A. Oats and James G. Oats reside beyond the limits of this State: It is therefore ordered that publication be made for six weeks successively in the Fayetteville Observer for them to be and appear at the next Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, to be held for the County of Moore, at the Court House in Carthage, on the 4th Monday of January next, and then and there plead, answer or demur to said petition, or it will be heard ex parte as to them.

Witness, A. H. McNeill, Clerk of our said Court, at office in Carthage, 4th Monday in October, 1863.

87*6tpd A. H. McNEILL, C. C. C.

OBSERVER.

FAYETTEVILLE.

THURSDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 31, 1863.

A NEW YEAR.—We could not greet our readers with the customary wish for "a merry Christmas!" To do so would have been a heartless mockery, when the land is filled with mourners and so many thousands of these who were wont to impart happiness to the season are either in the camp or in the grave. It is no time for merriment, assuredly. Rather is it a time for sober, serious thought about Him whose birth near nineteen centuries ago hallowed this season, and for prayer to Him that our lives may be assimilated to His, and that He may be in deed and in truth to our afflicted land the "Prince of Peace."

But we can and do, with all our hearts, wish our readers A HAPPY NEW YEAR! That which ends with to-day has been a year of great triumphs and of terrible disasters. Its earlier months were illuminated by the glorious fields of Chancellorsville and Winchester. Its later saddened by Vicksburg, Gettysburg, Tristow and Missionary Ridge. The unselfish devotion which distinguished our people during the earlier days of this revolution, seems only to have passed away with our days of triumph; or rather we should say, our days of triumph ceased when an almost universal greed of gain took possession of the very hearts of our people. It is not for us to pronounce that we are visited with disasters because of this sad change which is so manifest in the people. God knoweth. Only this we will say, that a sublimer spectacle was never presented by the human race than the people of the Confederate States—the whole people—presented during the first two years of the war, of unselfish patriotism in the devotion of their time, their means, their prayers, even of their lives, to the cause. This was universal. It is still very general, but no longer universal. The faint-hearted have turned aside by the way, at the very time when it is most needed that they should be strong and true. They fancy themselves like the wise man in Scripture, who "foreseeth the evil and hideth himself;" but their vision falls short of the real evil which threatens. The real and great evil would be subjugation—association in any shape with the monsters of cruelty and perfidy who have covered the face of the earth with the graves of our best and best beloved; who have returned to us so many thousands of maimed bodies and shattered constitutions; who have murdered our people in cold blood; wantonly burned the roofs from over the heads of women and children; burned and broken to pieces even the implements of husbandry, in the confident hope that as others could not be procured they would thereby bring starvation upon those same helpless women and children whom they had deprived of all but the shelter of Heaven. This is the evil—call it subjugation or reconstruction—from which the wise man should guard his country. Honor and interest alike demand it; for of all the degraded people upon this earth, it is not possible to conceive of any so degraded as the people of the South would be if compelled again to submit to the yoke of a race who know not what magnanimity and mercy mean. And of all the poor people on the face of the earth, it is not possible to conceive of [illegible] as the people of the South would be after the confiscation of their property and its division among the greedy and envious gang that have set their eyes upon the possession of a Southern plantation. If our Revolutionary ancestors had reason to wage a seven years' war with Great Britain for liberty, ten-fold more reason have the people of the present day to fight unceasingly against conquest by or reunion with their malignant Northern enemies.

The prospect of a speedy peace is not now encouraging. Yet we have a strong confidence, almost amounting to an abiding faith, that the war will in effect end before the close of the year 1864. The designs of Providence are effected through human agencies. And among these, we look for a tendency to peace from the known weariness of the war at the North; from the conviction of the calm and cool heads there that the South will never return to the Union, and that conquest is impossible; and indeed that it is undesirable, since it would revolutionize the state of society at the South and almost obliterate the crops of those Southern staples upon which the world's comfort and wealth so greatly depend. We believe, further, that there must be a collapse in the yankee debt, which is not, like ours, due at home, but must be met in gold and silver. When that trouble culminates, the ability of the North to prosecute the war will end. We have hope also from the Presidential election to take place in 1864. We all know how such a struggle for power convulsed the U. States of old, and now in time of war it is likely to be still more violently contested, leading to opposing combinations from which weakness alone can result. Let our people be but true to themselves—let the men and women but cherish the spirit which animated them in the earlier period of the struggle—let them labor and wait, esteeming no sacrifice too great to save their country from slavery and themselves from dishonor and poverty—and as sure as this war shall end, the result will be what a true and brave people have a right to hope for. Conquest can come no otherwise than from cowardice and croakers.

But we have wandered from our purpose, which was to say, that in entering upon the *Fortieth Year* of the Senior Editor's connection with the Observer, we have the gratification of speaking to full twice as many readers as we had a year ago, and to three times as many as we had two years ago. This evidence of public approval is our only reward, for so great has been the increased price of all the materials for printing and the means of living, that a business which in ordinary times would have enriched, is now inadequate to the support of our families. But it has not been our object to make money by the Observer during the war; we are even now hesitating to make any further increase in its subscription price, though for labor and paper there will be this year (even supposing there be no further advance) an addition to its annual expenses that can only be expressed by five figures. We hesitate because we hope that Congress will enact some law that will restore the currency to a better condition. Should it fail to effect this, we shall be compelled to advance our terms; but we hope not.

THE WADESBORO' MAIL.—In answer to the numerous and just complaints of the late failures of the mail from this place to connect at Cheraw, we are glad to state that the original contractor has taken the business from his delinquent substitute, and that he assures us there shall be no further cause to complain.

STATISTICS OF CUMBERLAND COUNTY.—R. W. Hardie, Esq., Confederate Tax Collector for this county, has handed us the following statement:

No. of Neat Cattle in Cumberland	7,709
Valued at	$551,847
No. of Cattle slaughtered and sold	709
Valued at	$63,830
No. of Horses not used in cultivation	235
Valued at	$78,805
No. of Mules not used in cultivation	91
Valued at	$35,360

THE YANKEE CONGRESS.—The proceedings of the yankee Congress are interesting. It will be seen that the party against the war—or at least against Lincoln's mode of conducting it—is about as 66 to 90 in favor of it. The bold stand of this large minority is encouraging. They would be bolder still, and more numerous, but for the course of the so-called peace party in the Confederacy, which, there is abundant reason to know, has been the great obstacle to the extension of a peace feeling at the North. We call the attention of these misguided men, who have so encouraged the enemy and discouraged our own people, to the resolution adopted by the yankee Congress, 93 to 64, declaring against "any armistice, or intervention, or mediation, or proposition for peace from any quarter, so long as there shall be found a rebel in arms against the government."

This resolution must be whipped out of them—that is the only way.

OFFICIAL LYING.—The late papers bring the official report of Gen. Averill, addressed to Gen. Halleck after his return from the late extensive raid to Salem, Va., in which he says, "My loss is six men drowned, one officer and four men wounded, and one officer and ninety men missing." As a commentary on this official report of a General, the Richmond papers mention the arrival there and confinement in the Libby prison of "125 of Averill's raiders, captured along the route of his march."

There is no small amount of lying on our side also, but we hope not among our Generals or other officers. We have many cases in point about this same raid of Averill's. The whole of his command had been cut off, and cut to pieces, by some accounts. But gradually these stories were abandoned, until, simultaneously with the appearance of Averill's report we have a long account in the Richmond Sentinel, summing up thus:—

"The result of Jackson's movements was the capture of two hundred prisoners with their horses and equipments, seven officers, including a Lt Colonel, Averill's Adj't General, the ambulance train complete, Averill's horse, his servant, his letter-book, his maps, including accurate maps of fifteen or twenty counties, and a large number of carbines and revolvers, and Averill was forced to destroy his entire train, and was deprived of the felon's pleasure of chuckling over his plundered spoils amongst his companions in infamy. Some 40 or 50 negroes were captured and returned to their owners."

Even this account must be razeed, for it is evident that the 125 prisoners received at Richmond are all that were captured. It was an inglorious affair to the Virginia cavalry, and Averill has too much reason to boast of his success, without lying about it.

THE SHAVING OF GEN. MORGAN'S HEAD.—We have seen a letter stating that a lady in the cars asked Gen. Morgan for a lock of his hair, when he pulled off his hat and showed her that he had none to give her, the yankees having shaved his head in the Ohio penitentiary.

DIVIDEND.—The Bank of Clarendon has declared a dividend of 5 per cent. See advertisement.

The Bank of Charlotte $7 50 per share (15 per cent) See advertisement.

A DIFFERENCE.—A gentleman paying his subscription to the Observer yesterday, remarked that he had delayed it longer than he would in the expectation that we would raise the subscription price, and he was willing to pay more. This is not like one of our subscribers some months ago, when we gave notice that we would on a certain day advance the price. He wrote us that he was pleased with the income, we ought to have more, &c. &c., and wound up by saying that he sent the money to renew his subscription and hoped it would reach us before our new rates went into operation!

Congressional.—Mr. Jameson, the new Senator from Alabama, qualified and took his seat in the Confederate Senate yesterday. Mr. Semmes reported from the Committee of Finance a bill to provide for a new issue of treasury notes, etc., the main features of which are—

1. Outstanding issues not to be receivable in payment of public dues, but to be fundable in six per cent bonds taxable as other property, or in four per cent. bonds *never to be taxed.*

2. All bonds or stocks of the Confederate States to be exchangeable at par for said four per cents.

3. A new issue of $250,000,000, to be made receivable in payment of ordinary public dues, and convertible into reconvertible call certificates, bearing 3 per cent. interest.

4. The faith of the Government pledged that the said new issue shall not exceed the amount stated in 1864, nor $200,000,000 in any subsequent year.

The rest of the session was consumed in debate upon the "substitute question." Before taking a vote, the Senate went into executive session.

In the House a variety of bills and resolutions were submitted, including a resolution of inquiry into the abuses practiced in the way of "commutation" to officers in certain departments. The yeas and nays being called on an amendment to the bill of Mr. Read, of Kentucky, to provide for wounded and disabled officers and soldiers, it was ascertained that no quorum was present, and the House adjourned.—*Richmond Whig, 29th.*

The House adopted a resolution instructing the military committee to inquire into the alleged abuse by officers in the matter of commutation. It is alleged that Colonels, Majors and Captains, employed as ordnance Clerks in the War Department at Richmond, are drawing commutation for room rent, fuel, forage, &c., making their pay amount to more than a Major General's in the field, and were also allowed to purchase for themselves and families from the quartermasters and commissaries at government cost. A resolution was submitted by Mr Smith of Alabama, inquiring if the copyright law embraced telegraph dispatches to newspapers, and proposed to repeal that portion; referred to the judiciary committee.

RICHMOND, Dec. 29.—In the Senate the bill passed to repeal the law allowing Surgeons in hospitals to grant furloughs and discharges.

At an early hour the Senate went into executive session after which it adjourned.

In the House a communication signed by a large number of the commanding officers of the army of Tennessee was presented, urging prompt enactment of measures to avert disorders omnipotent for our destruction which may become incurable in thirty days. They give their opinion that it is essential to retain during the war the troops now in service, and to place in service immediately for the same time all white males between 18 and 50, able to perform any kind of military duty, and to authorize the President, in his discretion, to place in service for the same term all between 15 and 18 and 50 and 60; to prohibit substitutes; to prohibit exemptions, except for civil offices; to prohibit details, except for short terms to carry on the works essential to the army; to prohibit discharges, except for permanent disability from any kind of duty; to prohibit furloughs, except under rules of universal application, based on the length of service and meritorious conduct; to prohibit, as far as possible, able bodied officers and soldiers from being assigned to post and hospital or other interior duty, and to place all able bodied negroes in service as cooks, laborers, &c. Also that dissatisfaction on account of short rations and the depreciation of the currency, may be obviated by bounties to the old troops and increase of pay or commutation to the enlisted men for rations not issued, and allowing rations to officers. Signed by Generals Hardee, Cheatham, Stevenson, Breckinridge, Brown, Pettus, Reynolds and Jackson, and with some slight reservations and dissent, by Generals Cleburne, Hindman, Lewis, Lowry, Anderson, Manigault, Vaughn, Quarles, Finley, Bates, Stewart, Strahl, Clayton, and by several Colonels commanding brigades. Referred.

A motion to reconsider the bill to prohibit the circulation of Yankee currency was voted down, 48 to 5.

FOR THE OBSERVER.

The Young Ladies' Knitting Society acknowledges the receipt of the following donations: Mr Thos DeRosset $10; Mrs Thos McDaniel 11 pair socks; Miss J A Colvin 2 pr socks; Mrs Kenneth Murchison lot of woollen yarn. Dec. 28.

The War in Virginia.—We have no war news from any quarter. The simultaneous raids of Averill and Rosser may be considered as having concluded the year's campaign in Virginia. The hostile armies will most probably, spend the balance of the winter in recuperating for the operations of next spring. From this time till the first of May our roads will not be in condition to bear artillery. The campaign in Virginia has been a long, bloody and eventful one, and there is little regret on our side that it is over. Had the enemy been as more successful in other parts of the Confederacy than in this State, all would be well. Twelve months ago Burnside was at Fredericksburg. To-day, Meade, with the same army, is wintering on the Rappahannock, twenty miles further from Richmond.

Richmond Examiner, 29th.

At Newbern.—There is every reason to believe that the enemy is concentrating heavy reinforcements at Newbern, with what view has not yet appeared, though circumstances would indicate an extension of his lines and a probable advance on Kinston, threatening the Wilmington and Weldon Road, and consequently our line of communication. His lines now extend to Trenton on the West and White Oak River on the South. He probably contemplates extending them to Kinston on the one hand and New River on the other.

Wilmington Journal, 29th.

From Tennessee.—BRISTOL, Dec. 28.—The news from the front is unimportant. Twenty one prisoners, captured by our cavalry at Mulberry Gap, have arrived here. Five hundred Yankee prisoners will be shipped to Richmond to night.

Fire at Yorktown.—RICHMOND, Dec. 29.—The recent fire at Yorktown resulted in a loss of not less than a million of dollars to the yankee government. The fire broke out in the Hospital and extended to the Arsenal and Powder Magazine. A tremendous report followed the exploding of the shells; burning beams were scattered in every direction. 25 persons were injured. Every house in the town was damaged. Next morning the main Magazine was reached, and an explosion took place which shook the earth for many miles around.

Arrival of the Prisoners.—The five hundred and odd men who were exchanged Saturday for an equivalent of Yankees arrived here last night by steamer from City Point, and went into quarters at Camp Lee. The poor fellows seemed overjoyed at landing once more in Dixie, and made the welkin ring with their shouts as they entered the city.—*Rich. Whig, 29th.*

Exchange of Prisoners.—RICHMOND, Dec. 28.—Judge Ould, our Commissioner of Exchange, in a letter to Gen. Richcock, informs him that self-respect requires that the Confederate authorities refuse to treat with Beast Butler as Agent of Exchange. He will therefore not be recognized by them as such Agent.

Prices Coming Down.—At the great sale of the Solomon McAlpine property, which came off near Eutaw, Ala., on Wednesday, the 16th inst, fifteen or twenty thousand bushels of corn were sold at 55 to 75 cents per bushel; 2,000 bushels peas at 90 cents to $1 per bushel; 4,000 to 5,000 bushels sweet potatoes at 50 to 60 cents, and a large quantity of ground peas at 90 cents to $1 per bush.

Gen. Forrest.—An official letter received at Oxford, Miss., from Gen. Forrest, says he has already raised 3,500 troops, and they are rapidly coming in.

Gen. Bragg.—Gen. Bragg has offered to serve as Gen. Johnston's Chief of Staff, and we are further informed that Gen. Bragg has also announced to the President his readiness to serve in any capacity in which his services may be deemed useful, and that if desired for the public intrests, he will fall back upon his old sphere as commander of a battery. Such a heroic and self-sacrificing spirit is worthy of all emulation. Let such a disposition animate our officers and the army will be invincible.—*Richmond Sentinel, 29th.*

FOR THE OBSERVER.

Messrs. E. J. Hale & Sons: I notice in the President's Message that he recommends conscribing for detached service, available to be [illegible] regular army officers, [illegible] you as a friend of the South to urge [illegible] stand against this. These men who have been pronounced unfit for service, if called into active service in the field, would be a great loss to the farming and other interests of the country. While at home they can take care of their health, but put them in the field and they are nearly a total loss, for no doubt a majority of them would soon be in their graves. I do not presume to advise, but I think it would be better to take men into the field who are able to stand camp life, and leave the cripples and invalids to work at home.

FOR THE OBSERVER

At a meeting of Mill Creek Lodge, No. 125, held Nov. 29th, 1863, the following preamble and resolutions were read and adopted:

Whereas, we have learned with profound regret that brethren Lieut. Mordecai Lee, of Co. G, 55th Reg't N. C. T., and Lieut. B. F. Allen, of Co. C, 38th Reg't N. C. T., members of this Lodge, died of wounds received at Gettysburg while doing their whole duty as heroic soldiers. Therefore,

Resolved 1st, That in the death of these our brethren the Masonic Fraternity has lost two devoted friends, this Lodge two of its brightest jewels, and their respective companies and companions in arms two efficient officers and soldiers.

Resolved 2d, That in the death of our brethren we are again reminded of the mortality of life and that we too must soon be cut down by the all devouring scythe of time, and ushered into that country from whose bourne no traveler ever returns.

Resolved 3d, That we tender their families and companions in arms our heartfelt condolence, and that we will wear the usual badge of mourning for thirty days, and that this proceeding be spread upon the records of this Lodge and a copy be sent to their respective families, and also to the N. C. Standard and Fayetteville Observer for publication.

GAINEY WEST, Sec'y.

DEATHS OF SOLDIERS.—At Emory Hospital, Va., 19th Nov'r, Paschal Smelcer, of Co. H, and on the 21st, G. W. Ward, of Co. F, Thomas's Legion.

At Columbia, S. C., Corporal J. R. Millison, of the 60th Reg't.

About the 1st of August, Lieut. John B. Clanton, of the 11th Reg't, of Mecklenburg, N. C.

MARRIED.

On the 24th inst., at the residence of the bride's mother, by the Rev. Charles Hall, Mr. WALTER WATSON of Colchester, Essex, England, to Miss VIRGINIA N. ELAM of Fayetteville, N. C.

Dec. 24th, 1863, by the Rev. A. G. Hughes, Mr. GEORGE W. PATTERSON of Alamance county, to Miss LIZZIE FOUST, daughter of George Foust, Esq., of Guilford county, N. C.

Oct. 19th, 1863, by Rev. P. H. Scovell, Mr. JOHN A. McKAY to Miss MATILLA McKEITHAN, all of Bladen county, N. C.

Also, at the residence of the bride's mother, Dec. 22d, 1863, by Rev. P. H. Scovell, Rev. E. L. PERKINS, M. D., to Miss SARAH A. WILLIS, of Bladen County, N. C.

In St. Paul's Church, Greensborough, Ala., Nov. 20th, by Rev. R. H. Cobbs, Capt. T. W. PATTON of Asheville, N. C., to Miss ANNA B. PEARSON, of Greensboro'.

DIED.

In this place, on the 28th inst., Mrs. SUSANNAH McKENZIE, wife of Mr. John McKenzie.

Departed this life in Robeson county, December 10th, 1863, Miss SUSANNAH LYSISA JONES, of typhoid Pneumonia, after an illness of three weeks. She bore her afflictions with fortitude, seeming to be willing to depart this life. "A sigh will oft from memory spring."

Farwell dear cousin, we part a while,
By death's cold hand we sever,
But not without the blessed hope
That you are safe in Heaven.
Dearest cousin, thou hast left us,
Here thy loss we deeply feel,
But 'tis God that has bereft us,
He can all our sorrows heal,
How soon may hope lie buried—
How soon life's dreams decay,
The brightest moments cherished
May vanish in a day.
Farewell dear cousin, thou hast left us,
You on earth no more we'll see,
For 'tis death that has bereft us
Of a cousin kind and free. C. T. G.

FOR THE OBSERVER.

Died on the night of the 2d July 1863, of wounds received on the 1st, at the battle of Gettysburg, Pa., Sg't W. Preston Kirkman, son of Dr. George Kirkman of Chatham Co., N. C., aged 26 years, 10 months and 16 days. He volunteered at the first tap of the drum in June 1861. He was in the battle of Newbern in March 1862, as I was one of the last to leave the rifle pits, and was unfortunately taken prisoner with a few more of his company. He was in the hands of the enemy for five months, during which time he suffered a great deal from rough treatment. He was exchanged in August and rejoined his Reg't. He acted as Orderly Sg't for Co. G, for some time before his death, which post he filled to the complete satisfaction of his Company—always ready and willing at any hour of the night, after a long weary march, to draw provisions for his comrades. He was known to walk over the camp with a piece of bread and meat to see if every one had his share. While doing his duty he was wounded in the evening of the 1st and lived till the night of the 2d. He died very calm. Sudden, indeed, and disheartening is the shock it gives to our feelings and sorely painful are the emotions which it excites in our palpitating bosoms. In the meridian of his life, in perfect health, the messenger of death meets him, and only a few hours elapse, when he makes his exit from the shores of life. Oh, my brother! the keenest grief wounds my spirit, and I mourn for thee—not as one that are released from this world of sorrow and grief, but because in thy dreadful conflict with death I was not there to gently press thy throbbing temples and wipe away the dew of death from thy fallen brow. But hush! an angel from heaven speaks and kindly says, "Weep not ye relatives and friends," his work on earth was done, and he is summoned to sweep in heaven the golden lyre of immortal praise.

Also, on the 1st September, at the General Hospital, Gettysburg, Pa., of acute pneumonia, after a brief illness of 4 days, Henry Clay B. Kirkman, son of Dr. Geo. Kirkman of Chatham county, N. C., aged 21 years, 2 months, 6 days. He was one of 4 brothers who went into the battles at Gettysburg, Pa., all of whom were either killed, wounded or taken prisoners. He was wounded on the 3d of July, late in the evening while near the enemy's breastworks. He was a member of Co. G, 26th Reg't, N. C. T. Although with a feeble constitution, he was one of the first to cast his lot among the "Chatham Boys" in 1861. His sudden death forcibly reminds us that "in the midst of life we are in death," and brings home to each of us the thrilling admonition, "be ye also ready." Let us, father, mother, brothers and sisters, wipe away our tears and for one moment contemplate those two brothers, not as they were on earth, but as the christian hope presents them now in heaven—free from the cares, solicitudes and disappointments of this life, separated from the weakness and imperfections of humanity, by the grace of a Saviour; forever secured from the approach of suffering and death by immortality.

By A BROTHER

FOR THE OBSERVER.

Killed instantly, in the battle of Gettysburg, July 1, 1863, private Lloyd West, a member of Co. H, 20th N. C. Reg't. He was the son of Mr. Lloyd West of Sampson county, N. C., and enlisted in the above company with five of his brothers on the 7th of September 1862. He shared all the dangers and hardships to which his company was exposed, and by his peculiarly pleasant manner, strict integrity, love of truth and unflinching courage he won the admiration and esteem of his companions, and pinned his name on the roll of honor to be preserved by the Government to declare to all posterity his gallantry. It was his greatest pride to do his duty, however humble that duty was. On being asked by his Captain to accept a non-commissioned appointment he replied "that if his Captain wished it he would accept, but that he preferred the position of a private." Oh, may he be happy through all eternity in heaven, where all is purity. No more can the call of drum and fife call him to duty, or the rifle's crack or cannon's thunder invite him to honor. The Company sympathize most deeply with his bereaved father, brothers and sisters.

A COMRADE.

Killed outright, in the fight at Gettysburg, D. P. Weather, son of Dr. H. Stith Register, N. C. Troops.

Among the brave who fell and were buried on the field, none were more distinguished for gallantry, or more beloved by their companions in arms, than Lieut. Col. Duncan K. McRae, of the 3d N. C. Regiment. He was killed while leading his regiment in the charge on the enemy's position on the heights, on the 1st day of July, and was buried on the field by the hands of his friends. He was a native of Wilmington, and was in the 28th year of his age. He graduated at the University of North Carolina in 1855, and was a lawyer by profession. He was a gallant officer and a true man, and his loss is deeply deplored by his friends and the country.

Punished in war, there is no one whose deeds are more worthy to be remembered and recorded upon the pages of fame than this brave young man who has fallen a victim in the bloom of youth, to the cruelties of this unfortunate war. He led a christian life, the end of which is peace, and immortal bliss and happiness. Thus whilst he was nobly vindicating his country's cause, in which bravery and gallantry marked his steps, he relied upon God, to whom the battle belongs, whose tenderest whisper shakes the mighty universe, for aid and protection. And now while his remains mingle in dust, his soul mingles with the seraphim in heaven, where sorrow is not realized and where the pangs of death are not felt. Oftentimes have we hovered together round the camp-fires after long and wearisome marches and after the sun had throned his chariot over the western hills, and conversed amicably together about what untold joy and with what bounding hearts we would return to our happy homes in the far off sunny South when the war was brought to a final close, and how tears of gratitude would flow from the father's feeble eye as he would discover the coming of his lovely son. He hoped that he would live to see all these things, but he has travelled the bourne whence no traveller returns and sleeps beneath the sod of earth in the cold damp grave. His genial disposition, gentlemanly bearing, manly conduct, deeds of valor and uniform correctness will dwell in the memory of those who knew him forever with ardent and sincere gratitude.

E. L. BIRCKHEAD, Co. D, 22d Reg't N. C. T.

Written in memory of MALCOM J. MCDONALD, who was killed July 18th, 1863, at Battery Wagner, member of the Scotch Tigers, 51st Reg't N. C. T.

Ye mighty muse, in wailings deep,
Sound forth a mourning strain,
And sweetly with your numbers weep,
For him, the gallant Tiger slain.

On Morris Island's barren sand,
Unmarked his body lies,
And the wave that lashes on the strand,
Now sings his obsequies.

Among the bravest of the brave,
His warrior's course was run;
But now he fills the warrior's grave,
Beloved by every one.

Although unmarked his body is,
Where it doth mould'ring lie,
Embalmed with us his memory is,
And never will it die.

And when the twilight hour shall come,
And settle on the bier,
We'll weep with mourning friends at home,
And drop the burning tear.

And while we journey in this vale,
With joy or care unknown,
We pray that when this body fail,
To meet him at the throne.

There with our friends and kindred there,
In that eternal day,
We'll strike the harp, we'll swell the choir,
Forever and for aye. A COMRADE.

FOR THE OBSERVER.

CAMP 18th N. C. Reg't, Dec 17th, 1863.

Messrs. E. J. Hale & Sons:—Permit me through the columns of the Observer to return the thanks of this Co (F, 18th N C T,) to the Ladies of the "Laurel Hill Soldiers' Aid Society," for their very timely and liberal donation of clothing, consisting of 30 shirts, 36 pairs drawers, 33 prs socks, 2 vizors, 2 caps, 3 towels, 2 blankets, 1 pair shoes; and also to the Ladies of the "Laurinburg Soldiers' Aid Society," for a like donation consisting of 23 shirts, 11 prs drawers, 21 prs socks, 2 prs pants, 2 blankets, 1 cover, 2 prs suspenders, 3 prs gloves, and 4 towels.

The members of this Company will ever feel under lasting obligations to the Ladies of these two Societies, and their names will ever be cherished in grateful remembrance by us for their many and repeated *warm* expressions of sympathy for us and the cause in which we are engaged. Very respectfully,

FRANK MCINTOSH,
1st Lieut. Comd'g Co. F, 18th N. C. T.

Raw Hides wanted to Tan.

WE will tan Hides for one third of the Leather. Hides to be delivered at our Tan Yard at Rives' Chapel, Chatham county, P. O. Beaumont.

We refer to Geo. W. Williams & Co., Fayetteville.
W. D. WATSON & CO.

Beaumont, Chatham Co., Nov. 19, 1863. 83*9tpd

CIRCULAR.

QUARTERMASTER GENERAL'S OFFICE,
RICHMOND, Nov'r 1, 1863.

I. IN order to give more immediate effect and operation to the act of February 15, 1862, intended to provide for "disabled soldiers" (by conferring on them appointments which they may be competent to fill,) it is hereby announced that any "disabled soldier" who may desire a position in the Quartermaster's department should, in order to obtain the same, report to the Chief Quartermaster of the State of which he is a resident, or in which he may be in hospital or on duty at the time of his application, his

Name,	Company,
Age,	Regiment,
Profession or trade,	Brigade, and
Place of abode or station,	Nature of Disability.

He will state in his application the nature of the position desired, such as clerk, wagon or forage master, &c. &c.

II. Applicants for clerkships will be required to possess a fair knowledge of arithmetic, to write good English, and in a legible hand. For subordinate positions, less will be required.

III. All applications must be supported by vouchers of unimpeachable character, and the sufficiency of witnesses thereunto if in civil life, must be certified by some justice of the peace, or other county or municipal officer. When applicant's son from the commanding officers of the applicant, no such certificate will be necessary.

IV. It shall be the duty of the Chief Quartermaster of each State to keep a roster of such applicants, and to place their papers on file for reference; and he will report at the expiration of each quarter the number thereof, and the number of appointments, to the Quartermaster General.

V. Local Quartermasters will (in case they have made no authorized arrangements for clerks or other employees) be expected to supply themselves, as far as practicable, from the class of "disabled soldiers" thus enrolled, who may be found competent to discharge the duties of the department.

VI. Applications should be accompanied in each case by a copy of the certificate which shows the soldier to be disabled, and should be addressed to the Chief Quartermaster of the State in which he may desire to obtain a position, thus:

"To the Chief Quartermaster of North Carolina, Raleigh."

VII. Posts of Chief Quartermasters are as follows:

Virginia,	Richmond,
North Carolina,	Raleigh,
South Carolina,	Charleston,
Georgia,	Augusta,
Alabama,	Montgomery,
Mississippi,	Enterprise,
Florida,	Lake City,
Louisiana,	Alexandria,
Texas,	San Antonia,
Arkansas and Missouri,	Little Rock,
Tennessee and Kentucky,	Knoxville.

VIII. When a place has been found for any applicant, the Chief Quartermaster in whose district the post may be, will proceed at once to obtain, through the regular channels, the detail and assignment to duty of the "disabled soldier" thus provided for.

IX. The earnest co-operation of all officers of the Quartermaster's department in carrying into effect this system, when it can be applied without manifest injury to the public service, is confidently expected.

A. R. LAWTON, Quartermaster Gen.

Dec'r 29. 94-2t*2t

NEW PUBLICATIONS
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THE GEOGRAPHICAL READER, with Maps—is just published. This is the only geography published in the Confederacy, and is to be followed by a Common School Geography. Send in your orders soon. Price $2.00

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THE FIRST DIXIE READER will be out the 20th of Nov. inst., by Mrs. M. B. Moore, author of the series. Price 50 cents.

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HESPER AND OTHER POEMS, by Thos. H. Hill. Second edition near

HE ARMY OF TENNESSEE AND ITS GENERALS.

CORRESPONDENCE OF THE SAVANNAH REPUBLICAN.

THOMASTON, GA., Dec. 23, 1863.—I proceed in accordance with a previous promise to furnish you with a series of sketches of the officers attached to this army. But let us first take a glance at the

ARMY OF TENNESSEE.

The army itself is composed of quite as good material as the Army of Northern Virginia, though it has not been near so successful. The original Army of the Potomac—the army that fought the first battle of Manassas—was made up chiefly from the volunteer companies in the towns and cities and was composed of young men of ardent temperaments and great military pride and spirit. A majority of these men have fallen victims to battle and disease, but they lived long enough to make their impress upon the army, and to set an example to their successors of courage, of heroic endeavor and *esprit de corps*, which has reproduced itself on every battle in which they have been engaged. A large proportion of the soldiers of the first Manassas were men of light hair and blue and gray eyes, possessing sanguine natures, impetuous courage and reckless daring—men of the highest and purest type of chivalry, of unusual intelligence and large wealth, who could not brook the idea of being made "hewers of wood and drawers of water" to the sordid and mechanical race which inhabits the colder region of the North. They came from all the States in the Confederacy except Missouri, being the first to rush to arms from their respective communities. The troops who succeeded them, and who now make up our armies, on the contrary, are for the most part men of dark hair and eyes, who, being less excitable and less impetuous, were not so quick to take the field. Perhaps even now they do not possess the same dash as the Fourth Alabama, the Seventh and Eighth Georgia, Hampton's S. C. Legion, the Sixth North Carolina, Jackson's Virginians, Wheat's Louisianians and other regiments that met the invader upon the banks of Bull Run; but they can boast of other soldierly qualities of equal, if not greater importance in a protracted war like this—firmness, patience and great powers of physical endurance.

The career of the Army of Tennessee, from the retreat from Bowling Green and fall of Fort Donelson, down to the disaster at Missionary Ridge, whether under Sydney Johnston, Beauregard or Bragg, has been one of constant retreats and few victories. The troops, with hardly an exception, have always fought well, and have always fought against superior numbers, and always against the best officers in the Federal army; and if they had been as successful at Donelson or Shiloh as the Army of the Potomac was at Manassas, the probability is they would now be holding Grant at bay in Kentucky as Lee is holding Meade at bay in Northern Virginia. But there are other causes for their want of success besides the inequality of numbers. The Army of Tennessee has always operated in a region where the physical features of the country were against it, as witness the Mississippi, the Ohio, the Cumberland and the Tennessee, large navigable streams by which the enemy has been enabled to penetrate into the very heart of the Confederacy. The loss of Kentucky and Tennessee, of Missouri and a large portion of Arkansas and Mississippi, together with the father of waters and all his tributaries, were the natural, though not unavoidable, consequences of the fall of Forts Henry and Donelson, those neglected gate-ways by which the enemy has reached our homes and desolated our fields. How true is it that

> "A pebble on the streamlet scant
> Has turned the course of many a river;
> A dewdrop on the baby plant
> Has warped the giant oak forever!"

To the cause here alluded to, should be added the conduct of a portion of the Confederate press, which has been as violent and unreasonable in its denunciations of a majority of the most meritorious officers in this army as it has been blind and extravagant in its laudations of others who were less deserving. The country has not forgotten with what bitterness Sydney Johnston, a peer upon any field and in any assembly of men, was assailed, and driven, it may be, to a premature grave, because, with the insufficient force given him by the government, he could not accomplish the impossibility of overcoming the physical geography of the country and starving [illegible] the three times as many [illegible] who succeeded him, was without question more fortunate with the people; but he fell under the ban of the authorities, and was made to give way to Bragg, upon whom all the seven phials of popular wrath have been poured to the last drop. In the meantime, the dragon's teeth sown during the command of Johnston, became full grown men of mischief under Bragg. Certain subordinate officers, whose previous civil training enabled them to ingratiate themselves with certain newspapers nearest the scene of action, entered upon a war for the succession, and undertook to play the role of Warwick, the King maker, in which they had the assistance of their unsuspecting organs in the preliminary work of perverting the public mind and impairing the efficiency of the army. Some of them fought their commander in chief quite as hard as they did the enemy, and were fully as anxious to cut a figure in the future prints as upon the field of battle. These officers are all men of ambition and decided merit, and had they co-operated with their chief as cordially as they opposed him, history might have recorded a far different result. The chief might not have been all that could have been desired; but if he was not, so much greater the obligation resting upon them to hold up his hands that he might prevail against a common enemy. If they did not repose full confidence in his fitness and capacity, it was right to call upon the President to remove him, but wrong to bring him into discredit with his own troops, and thus invite disaster. That some of them should have had their heads turned by the extravagant puffing resorted to, and should have become insubordinate, and refused to report to this officer or that, and applied for independent commands, was natural, if not pardonable; but shall no part of the public indignation be visited upon these principals and their echoes, the authors of much of the mischief that has befallen this army? Shall we condemn only the pilot who runs his vessel upon the rocks, and pass by the wretch who bores a hole in her bottom?

P. W. A.

GENERAL BRAGG.

THOMASTON, GA., Dec. 26th, 1863.—Taking the Generals in the Army of Tennessee in the order of their rank, I would remark that Gen. Braxton Bragg, the late commander in chief, was born in the good old State of North Carolina about the year 1815, and is consequently about forty-eight years of age. He entered the West Point [illegible] in 1833, in the same class with [illegible] W. H. T. Walker of Georgia, between whom and himself there has ever since existed mutual friendship and confidence. The country is familiar with Gen. Bragg's career in Mexico, and with the distinguished services he rendered [illegible] that country as an artillerist. Some time after the war and during Mr. Tyler's administration, he resigned his commission in the army on account of some ruling by Mr. Davis, the Secretary of War, and retired to his plantation in Mississippi.

When the present war broke out, it found Gen. Bragg engaged in the peaceful and ennobling pursuits of the planter. He had married after the Mexican war and was the possessor of one of the finest estates in the South-west. Soon after his inauguration as President of the Provisional Government, Mr. Davis, overlooking their former differences, offered him the commission of Brigadier General in the Provisional Army, which he accepted without a moment's hesitation. The fact here recorded is creditable alike to the President and his new Brigadier, since it shows that neither of them would allow private feeling to stand in the way of public duty. It proved, moreover, that the President has not been influenced by motives of personal friendship, in his support of Gen. Bragg as the commander of one of our most important armies. It will not be inappropriate to add in this connection, that the report so persistently circulated to the effect that these two eminent personages are related to each other by blood or marriage, is without the least foundation in fact. Their relations are friendly and agreeable, but nothing more.

Gen. Bragg was assigned to the command of the forces at Pensacola, where he remained until the Spring of 1862, and then was ordered to Tennessee, and finally to Corinth. In the great battle of Shiloh, fought on the 6th and 7th of April in that year, he and Hardee and Polk commanded the three lines with which the army advanced to the assault, and each one greatly distinguished himself on that bloody field. The lamented Sydney Johnston having fallen in the thickest of the fight, Bragg was immediately promoted to the rank of full General by the President, and made Chief of Staff under Beauregard, who succeeded to the command of the army. Subsequently, upon the evacuation of Corinth and the removal of Gen. Beauregard, the command of the army was turned over to Gen. Bragg.

But it is not of General Bragg's career, so much as of his military character and qualifications, that I propose to speak. Looking at him in this light, therefore, he may be fully and correctly described in the five following words: *he is simply a soldier.* It is not meant to be asserted that he is not a gentleman of intelligence and culture, and of polished manners in general society—for he is all this—but what I mean to affirm is, that when he is at the head of an army, his whole being and character seem to be absorbed and merged in that of the soldier. He is destitute of diplomacy, and knows neither friends nor foes in the discharge of his duties. If one of his officers has been taken from civil life where he occupied a large space in public estimation, as in the case of Gen. Breckinridge, he shows him precisely the same consideration as he does the least distinguished of his subalterns who has won his way with his sword to the same position—neither more nor less. He expects the one to know his place and obey his orders as implicitly as the other. That this stern military rule is founded in abstract justice, if not in wisdom, no one can deny, and yet, it with his earnest, perhaps austere manners, when occupied with business, has had the effect to render him unpopular with some of his officers, who, in their turn, have inoculated the subordinate officers in their respective commands with somewhat of their own feelings and opinions. It is said, but with what truth I am not prepared to decide, that for some time past Gen. B. has been more conciliatory in his bearing towards persons having business to transact with him. Be this as it may, it is certain that he has never turned aside from his duties in the field to court the favor of the public. He is the hardest worker I have met with in the Confederate army. Day and night, in sunshine and in storm, in cold weather and in hot, he is ever at his post; and he allows no pleasure, however tempting, and no society, however charming, to take him away from his duty. He not only works himself, but he requires every one about him to work. His staff officers, like himself, know not what it is to enjoy a day of relaxation. I have thought that he remains too closely at his quarters, and that it would be better for his health and for the good of the army if he would inspect his lines oftener and see and judge for himself.

Of his capacity for command I need not stop to speak: the world will judge him by his campaigns rather than by anything I might say. As an organizer of the forces and an administrative officer, he ranks deservedly high. There are no better soldiers in the whole army than his Pensacola troops, of which he had the exclusive training and disciplining. He possesses unusual quickness and capacity for business, and is a man of evident patriotism and undoubted courage. If he did not seek death in the late battle on Missionary Ridge, he was certainly indifferent to it. He is a member of the Episcopal church, and in private life his habits are as exemplary as those of any christian gentlemen in all the land. His loss of property has been very heavy, the enemy having taken everything he possessed except his land, and driven his wife from her home with only the clothing in which she stood. In stature, he is a tall, thin man, with piercing black eyes, iron gray hair, and heavy eyebrows that meet above the nose and impart to his face an aspect of much austerity.

His stern manners, unsocial habits and devotion to business, have rendered him unpopular with many of his superior officers; while his neglect of those arts by which ambitious men are wont to win popular applause, has had much to do in shaping public opinion against him, in that it left his opponents free to say and publish what they pleased concerning him. As a disciplinarian, he is very rigid, and has probably had as many executed as any two commanders in the army; and yet he is far more popular with his soldiers and regimental officers than with those in higher positions. As a strategist and fighter, his friends may well point to the battle of Chickamauga and the operations which preceded it; and yet in a contest before the people through the public prints the most commonplace of his political generals is more than a match for him.

When Gen. Bragg was about to relinquish the command of the Army of Tennessee, I called, as others did, to bid him adieu. He spoke freely and feelingly of the recent disaster, and seemed to be far more concerned for the success of our cause and the welfare of the troops than about his own reputation. He remarked that he did not know but that Sydney Johnston's rule, that a commander should be judged by the results of his campaigns, was a just standard, and that so far as his fall was the consequence of his own conduct, he was prepared to accept it and abide by it; but insofar as it was the result of the incapacity, disobedience or perversity of others, he thought he ought to be relieved, and he believed that impartial history, when all the facts were brought to light, would do it. His own disgrace or destruction was a matter of but little consequence; he had lost his property and his health in the service, and was ready to give his life and reputation for the success of the cause, of which he entertained no doubt whatever.

Recalling to mind how much he had lost, and how much he had suffered in health and reputation, I confess, as I bade him farewell, that I could not withhold my sympathy and admiration from a man who was so firm and unselfish in the hour of adversity, and in whose resolute eyes there glistened a tear, not for himself, but for his bleeding country.

P. W. A.

Cases of Habeas Corpus,

DECIDED by the Supreme Court of North Carolina, at the June Term, 1863. By Hamilton C. Jones, Reporter. A few copies for sale on consignment.

Oct. 7, 1863. R. J. HALE & SONS.

OUR PRISONERS AT POINT LOOKOUT.

From the note books of several of the Confederate prisoners who have recently purchased their freedom from Point Lookout we extract at random a few of the instances of barbarous treatment there chronicled; and the truth of the statements can be vouched for by the five hundred returned prisoners. Whoever can read them without feeling his nerves tighten the gripe of his sword hand, and clench his teeth with indignation, lacks one of the essential principles of common nature. Murder was not only not scrupled at, but opportunities sought for its commission by the guard, who are known to have been offered, by the officer of the day, as much as ten and fifteen dollars apiece for every prisoner they could shoot *"consistently"* in the discharge of their duty.

The prisoners are the hewers of wood and drawers of water for the whole prison post. On one occasion the prisoners detailed for wood pressed too closely upon the gateway before it was opened. A brute named Sides, with the title of "captain" prefixed, who was outside, ordered them to "fall back," but not being obeyed in a moment, he drew a five-shooter and discharged each of its five barrels through the aperture into the crowd gathered at the gate, shooting one through the head, another through the arm, and a third in the leg. No more notice was taken of the bloody occurrence by the authorities in charge than if Sides had fired into a flock of birds.

On another occasion, six of the prisoners contrived a plan of escape, as prisoners have a right to when they can. They dug a tunnel, commencing in the concealment of their little house, built of cracker boxes, and ran it under the enclosure and out the side of a ledge of the Chesapeake Bay. Though the distance was short, the labor was very great, and several anxious weeks passed before the light of freedom broke in at the ocean *terminus*. At length, everything was ready, and a night was fixed upon. They bribed the sentinel on that post with a gold watch and seventy five dollars in "greenbacks." They emerged from the tunnel, and were directed by the treacherous sentinel to keep along the water ledge until a high embankment was reached, where lay concealed about a dozen cavalrymen, revolver in hand, who were lying in ambush. Luckily, the escaping party discovered them in time to turn back. The ambush men pursued, and the Confederates cried out, "We have been betrayed! we surrender." But the yankees, intent on their murder and not their recapture, rushed up and fired upon them with their revolvers. Four out of the six were desperately wounded. One was shot through both lungs and liver and through the bowels; another (private Morgan, cousin of General Morgan, had his head cut by a sabre and scalped by a ball. Two were mortally wounded, and were in the hospital dying when their companions last heard of them. Private Morgan was among the paroled that came up on the last flag of truce steamer. He exhibited the scars to us.

The individual instances of shooting and maiming are literally too numerous to mention.

The rations of the prisoners consisted of five hard crackers per day, with a piece of meat that resembled a shrimp in proportion; in retaliation, they said, for the treatment of the prisoners in Richmond. The provost-marshal, J. N. Patterson, took all the money from the prisoners and gave them checks to its value on the sutler. Pretty soon that sutler was closed up and another opened, who dispensed nothing but tobacco, envelopes and writing material. A few weeks before Christmas the reception of boxes from friends to the prisoners was stopped, as it was feared the influx of Christmas presents would be too great. The goods received after that were parted by lot, and fell among the Yankee officials and guards.

The hospital was wretchedly managed; or rather, not managed at all. With two hundred and upwards [illegible] apothecary was oftener without medicine than with it. The dead accumulated at the rate of twenty per day, and were buried in the blanket on which they gasped their life out, with no coffin except the earth, into which they were huddled. It is not known that even a record of their names was kept. When it was known among the prisoners that a certain number of them were to be sent to City Point, then came the hours of anxious hope and fear to all. Money was then all powerful, and extorted from those authorized to make up the lucky list the erasure and substitution of many a name. Gold watches, rings, and other trinkets of value were freely bartered for the release which all so much craved. Those selected had heavy sums offered them for a substitute. Apart from the influence of money, the list was principally made up from those who gave the officials the most trouble by their frequent attempt to escape, and occasioned them the most fear by their incitement to revolt.

With one other instance of yankee barbarity to ladies, we will close this recital of outrage and wrong. While the prisoners taken at Gettysburg were being marched through Baltimore, one of them fainted on Calvert street, and fell on the steps of a residence. A lady from the window noticing his condition, ran with a half tumbler of brandy to his relief, and raising his head poured the nourishing draught down his parched and burning throat. A yankee provost-marshal, Morris, who was told of it by some creatures in man's clothing, rode up, dismounted, drew his sword, and with a terrible oath, that well befitted his craven lips, demanded if she gave the "d—n rebel" the liquor. The lady confessed she had, when the brave officer jerked her by the arm from the midst of her shrieking children, and placing her between two other creatures with loaded muskets and fixed bayonets, ordered her to be sent, with head uncovered, to the guard-house, declaring, as he looked on the execution of his order, that "these d—n rebels are got to be put down, and I am the man to do it."—*Rich. Examiner.*

The Government Cotton.—There is no certain estimate of the amount of Government cotton on hand; but allowing 50,000 bales for losses by the enemy, and about 20,000 on account of shipments to Europe for army supplies and on Treasury account, there will remain on hand at the present time, according to reports received, 320,551 bales.

The average price paid per pound is as follows, for the different States, viz: in Arkansas, 12½ cents; in Mississippi, 12 39 cents; in Florida, 13 cents; in Louisiana, 14 cents; in Georgia, 15½ cents; in Alabama, 21 cents; and in South Carolina, 36½ cents. The average is highest in South Carolina because a portion of the purchase consisted of sea island cotton. The total average for all the States is 16 85 cents.—*Rich. Examiner.*

The Terrible Losses of the War.—The following paragraph from the Washington National Intelligencer, tells the story of the enormous losses of the war better than anything we have seen. It says:

We have now in the United States at least two hundred and thirty-five general hospitals for the use of the soldiers, containing about eighty thousand patients. To show on what a large scale our battles have been fought, as we do everything else, it seems that during four months of 1862 there were treated at our hospitals 20,930 cases of gunshot wounds. The wounded of the whole British army in the Crimean war was a little over 12,000, and their entire hospital accommodations in the three years would not have sufficed for the wounded at either of the battles of Shiloh, Antietam, or Gettysburg.

COMMUNICATIONS.

FOR THE OBSERVER.

Died, at General Hospital, No 4, Richmond, Va., on the 30th day of October 1863, of wounds received in the battle of Bristow Station, JAMES DEVEREUX BRYAN, while gallantly leading his men in that deadly but unequal conflict with a superior force of the enemy.

When it was first discovered that this unholy war was inevitable, and when all the good and the brave of the South rushed to arms at their country's call, the subject of this brief memoir grasped his gun and shone for himself the true post of honor—a private's station—in the ranks. On the final organization of the company of his choice—the Goldsboro' Rifles—under Capt. Croton, he was appointed Orderly Sergeant. This was the first company in the State that was ordered permanently into the field by the lamented Gov. Ellis; and from this commences the humble military career of him, who is the subject of this sad tribute. To his devotion to duty, irreproachable conduct and unflinching courage, he owed whatever promotion he afterwards received, but never sought. In military, as in civil life, he enjoyed the confidence and esteem of all who knew him, and had the happy faculty of endearing himself to associates and friends, that they seemed to regard themselves most highly honored only when conferring honors upon him. His exemplary conduct at home and in the field, attests alike that this confidence and esteem and these honors had not been misplaced. Jealous as a virgin of his own spotless honor, he was equally jealous of the honor of his country's flag which he had volunteered to defend, and in defence of which he poured out his life. In making up the volume which is to record the daring and deeds of the heroes and martyrs of this bloody war, the impartial historian will find a theme for a passing paragraph, not altogether unworthy of his pen, in the virtues and valor of James Devereux Bryan, notwithstanding he occupied but the lowly position of a Captain of infantry.

The deceased was born on the 25th day of September 1837, and was therefore a little over 25 years old at his death. He was a son of Gen. Henry Bryan of Sampson county, and leaves two brothers surviving him in the army. The writer cannot say in how many battles and marches he shared the dangers and toils of his trusty comrades; but he is well assured, that never before on any occasion, on any field, did patient endurance and true valor show themselves more conspicuously than when they illustrated the conduct of Capt. B at the battle of Bristow Station. Wounded three times, at short intervals, he still continued to cheer on his men; but a fourth bullet killed him to the ground and he had to be carried off the field. It was while being thus carried off, by his brother and one or two members of his company, that he received the fatal wound which terminated his life. He was carried subsequently to Richmond, where he suffered intensely for two weeks, during which he had all the care and attention which medical skill and kind friends could bestow. It is a consolation to his immediate relatives to know that, during most of the time, and up to the moment of his death, he had all the benefit of the eminent skill and tender nursing of Dr. Jno. W. Davis of Goldsboro', who, when he could do no more for the living hero, performed the last and office to the dead patriot, by bringing home his corpse for interment.

It only remains for me to say that he submitted to all his sufferings with the fortitude and meekness of the true christian, remarking, while yet in the greatest pains, that he had ce learned to serve faithfully both his God and his country, and to God's will he was resigned. He was a consistent communicant of the Methodist Episcopal Church; and as an accomplished lady was heard to remark of him: "Those who knew him best say he was the true soldier and the christian gentleman." All of him that was mortal now moulders in the tomb of his fathers in Sampson county; but his redeemed spirit from on high and the shining example of his short but eventful life, are mingling their voices with those of all our murdered patriots, and invoking every son of the South to rush to the battle field, rescue our country from impending bondage, avenge all the innocent blood that has been shed, or die as he died, and reap immortable honors in the patriot soldier's tomb.

AMICUS

FOR THE OBSERVER.

Killed in the battle of Chancellorsville, Va., May 3d, 1863, private Wiley P. Davis, only son of Ann and Eli Davis, of Montgomery county, N. C. Wiley belonged to Co C, 28th Reg't N. C. T. He volunteered the 4th of March, 1863 and joined the company at Fredericksburg, Va., the 22d of March, at the age of 18 years and 1 month. Wiley was a good and noble boy; no one of his age could have been more popular than he, or could have been more loved and respected. He was noted for his good morals and steady habits. His fond parents almost idolized him, being their only son upon whom to center their love, and he was always ready to comfort them in all their trials and troubles by his love and kindness. As a brother no one could be more kind than he. He leaves three sisters, who will miss him as long as they live. Wiley was in camp just six weeks. While he was fighting bravely he was pierced with a musket ball through the head and died instantly, on that beautiful Sabbath morning. He sleeps in the cold embrace of Death, under the soil of Va, far from his home and friends and the scenes of his youth, but he will ever live in the hearts of his relatives, who will fondly cherish his memory. He is gone and cannot come to us but we can go to him. He did fair to make a useful man, but was cut down in his youth. He gained the love and admiration of his officers and the Company to which he belonged, though his stay with them was so short. Weep not, fond parents, for your noble son, for God has seen fit in his wisdom to take him from earth to eternity. We hope he is at rest in Heaven.

SISTER MOLLIE

FOR THE OBSERVER.

Died, 30th Nov'r, Hays Magee, from a wound received in the torchead on the 27th of Nov'r during the fight at Bristow Station. He volunteered in Capt. T. M. Sikes's Co. in May 1861, was sent to Virginia and went through all the fights before Richmond, the fight at Fredericksburg, and several others. He died bravely defending his country's rights. He leaves a father and mother, four brothers and three sisters, besides a large circle of relatives and friends to mourn his untimely death. We trust that our loss is his eternal gain.

FOR THE OBSERVER.

CAMP 28TH N. C. T., NEAR ORANGE C. H., VA.,
Dec. 26, 1863.

Messrs. Editors: Our Brigade (Kirkland's) is now encamped in a large and well-timbered piece of woods. The boys are busily engaged in putting up winter quarters and it is quite a novelty to see the many different plans of construction of the cabins. The health of the Brigade is very good now. The old 26th was reduced nearly to a skeleton at Gettysburg and Bristow, but yet we number men enough to give our number of the yanks, (yes a little more) what they would not like to receive. The wounded of the two named battles are continually coming in, swelling our ranks. We have a dull Christmas, though the boys are lively and in fine spirits.

Confederate Tax Notice.

I WILL attend with the Assessors at the office of A. M. Campbell in Fayetteville daily from Wednesday the 5th day of January until the 21st to receive the Income Tax due Jan'y 1st, 1864, and the Tax due from Dealers. Dealers will take notice that their Licenses expire on the 31st Dec 1863, and they will be required to renew them, and to return the amount of sales for the quarter ending Dec 31st, 1863.

The Income Tax is payable by each person, joint stock company and corporation, from every occupation, employment or business, whether registered or not, in which they may have been engaged, and from every investment of labor, skill, property or money, and the income and profits derived from any source whatever from Jan'y 1st, 1863, to Jan'y 1864.

The following exemptions from the tax are allowed:
1st. Incomes of and under $500.
2d. Profits or income derived from such products of land as are taxed in kind.

R. W. HARDIE,
Dist. Col. for Cumberland county.

Dec'r 12, 1863 89-tf2Jy1

L. C. LINEBERRY & CO.,
General Commission Merchants,

Have removed to the store formerly occupied by
Worth & Daniel,
No. 4, North Water Street,
WILMINGTON, N. C.

Oct 8 1863. 84 3mos

Bank of Clarendon at Fayetteville,
DECEMBER 28, 1863.

THE Directors of this Bank have declared a semi-annual dividend of 5 per cent, payable on 2d Jan'y next.

J. W. SANDFORD, Cash'r.

AVON E. HALL,
Forwarding & Commission Merchant.

WILL give quick despatch to goods consigned to him. Particular attention given to all produce sent him for sale. Consignments of Naval Stores, for sale or shipment, solicited.

Wilmington, July 19, 1863 82tf

Things in Lee's Army.—I have been told by the surgeon in charge of the general receiving and forwarding hospital that the number of sick received for the month of December of this year will not be over fifty per cent. of what it was for the corresponding month of last year. There are, however, a good many cases of typhoid pneumonia now under treatment at the hospitals here, of which a large per cent. prove fatal. And just here I am reminded that the reasons for this disease are to be found in the fact that a large number of our troops are unprovided with shoes, blankets, or overcoats, and hence their sickness results from exposure. In Hays' Louisiana brigade, for example—and it is by no means singular in its unsupplied wants—there are 239 men who have no blankets or bedding of any description. There are two hundred and twenty one who have neither blankets nor overcoats, and there are 482 who are without overcoats. In reading this statement to a commander of another brigade, he assured me that his troops were fully as bad, if not worse, to do than Hays's men. These facts need no comment, and present themselves in a shape far more eloquent than any words I can utter in placing them to the public. Will the country respond, or will it refuse to lend a helping hand? We shall see.

In my last I made some mention of the shoe-shop established by Brig. Gen'l Mahone in his brigade. Since that writing I have paid a visit to it and found it most complete in all its appointments. He has it so arranged that there is one room for cutting out work, another for binding it together, and a third for putting on the soles. He has also a repairing shop, in which not less than 500 shoes have been renovated since its establishment, and made serviceable—every pair of which would have been cast away but for this shop. The General makes his own awls, hammers, pegs and last, and captures the hides from the Yankees which he has thus far used in the manufacture of shoes. I am told that every brigade in the army might organize a shop for *repairing* shoes at an outlay of $500, and the capacity of half a wagon for transportation when the army is in motion. Ought not every brigade to have one of these shoe-shops for repairs?

Cor. Rich'd Dispatch.

[A shoe and a soap factory have long been attached to Gen. Hoke's North Carolina Brigade, to the great comfort of his men, as we have heard.]

Interesting Statistics—Assessment of War Tax.—By a report recently made to Congress, we have the valuations of the different species of property embraced within the provisions of the tax act of August 19th, 1861. The following principal items will be interesting:

Real estate,	$1,309,710,759 64
Slaves,	1,489,209,050 17
Merchandise,	67,821,063 52
Bank stock,	24,405,231 46
Railroad and other corporation stock,	51,502,063 12
Money at interest,	408,765,468 70
Cash on hand,	41,350,841 88
Horses, cattle, &c.,	44,563,268 26

The sum of the several aggregates (we have only enumerated the principal) is $4,220,755,834 21.—*Rich'd Examiner.*

Abstract of Estimates.—The following is an abstract of the estimates made in some of the departments of the appropriations necessary to cover the period between the 1st January, 1864, and 30th June, 1864.

Quartermaster General,	$820,628,745
Commissary General,	7,988,000
Surgeon General,	17,000,000
Engineer Bureau,	10,000,000
Ordnance Bureau,	23,000,000
Nitre and Mining Bureau,	9,500,000
Adjutant General's office,	50,000
Bureau of War,	242,125
Conscript service,	
Contingent Fund,	250,000

The Cotton Purchase.—A report has recently been sent into Congress giving the details of the cotton purchase. The total amount of purchases by the Government, up to this time, is more than thirty millions of dollars. The Government agents have recently been furnished with funds, and instructed to resume purchases. It is estimated that the loss of Government cotton, which has fallen into the hands of the enemy in the Mississippi districts, will not exceed fifty thousand bales.—*Rich'd Examiner.*

The Tax in Kind.—We learn that the opposition to the tax in kind in many of the Southern States has induced the Government, very generally, to commute it for money. It is considered that this species of tax is much more difficult to be handled, and carried to points where it may be needed, and its collection and distribution is more expensive, and it is more liable to waste and destruction, than a money tax.—*Rich. Examiner.*

The Confederate Revenue.—The Commissioner of Taxes reports that the operations under the tax act are so limited at present, owing to many causes, that it would be vain to attempt anything like a reliable statement of the amount of the annual money tax, but, judging from the collections already made of taxes from business and occupations, it is affirmed that the money tax alone, this year, will amount to at least one hundred millions of dollars.—*Rich'd Examiner.*

The Financial Scheme in Congress.—We learn that the committee of the House of Representatives has matured and prepared for report to the House a scheme of financial relief, which rejects what is known as the "Bank Convention" scheme, and proposes a certain plan of general *ad valorem* taxation. In this scheme the idea of funding is not entirely discarded, but is proposed as a certain auxiliary to the contemplated improvment of the finances by heavy taxation. It is generally estimated that the tax bill prepared by the committee will yield six hundred millions of revenue; some other estimates say seven hundred and fifty millions.—*Richmond Examiner.*

Militia Organizations in the South.—The State authorities of Georgia are now re-organizing the militia of that State under the recent act of the Legislature, which proposes, by a new military system, to have Georgia thoroughly prepared to repel any attacks of the enemy during the coming spring. The law calls into service all white male residents who are of the age of sixteen years and not over sixty years of age. The militia enrolled under this act are to be divided into two classes. The first composed of those between seventeen and fifty years of age, constituting what is called the militia proper; and the second class those between sixteen and seventeen years of age, and between fifty and sixty years of age, constituting what is to be known as the militia reserve. The only exemptions provided for in the bill are those created by the Constitution in reference to all officers and members of the executive, legislative and judicial departments of government.

Recruits.—Portions of six more regiments of West Tennesseeans have lately come out for arms. Thirteen regiments are said to have reported to Gen. Forrest. The Yankee policy of impressment into their service is driving recruits rapidly to our own.—*Charleston Courier.*

John Belton O'Neall.—The South Carolinian announces, on authority of a private letter received in Columbia, the decease of Chief Justice O'Neall, which occurred on Sunday evening, 27th, at his residence near Newberry Court House.

FROM EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA

We have authentic details of the conduct of the negro troops and their commanders on the occasion of their late trip to Elizabeth City, and while on the retreat.

The expedition was commanded by Brig. Gen. Wilde, and consisted of two regiments of negroes, one of which was commanded by Ex. Gov. Todd of Ohio. They landed at Elizabeth City on Friday, 18th inst., and spent some eight days before they returned, during which they destroyed ten buildings in the counties of Pasquotank, Camden and Currituck, and outraged and plundered the people in the most heartless manner. Whilst in Elizabeth City the officers were all quartered on the most respectable families, indiscriminately, (the commissioned officers being white, the non-commissioned black,) and did not pay a dollar for anything they received. In most cases they compelled ladies to cook and wash for them. Reporting at Wilde's headquarters daily they were questioned to know if they had been treated as "gentlemen" and particularly if any of the male members of the families they were quartered on talked secession doctrine.

On the streets the ladies of the place were jostled by the negro troops and had to permit them to walk by their side and converse with them on pain of arrest and punishment for insulting "United States Troops!" Any information laid by a negro against man or woman was received as conclusive evidence and brought swift punishment upon the alleged offender. The negro ran riot during the yankee stay in the Albemarle country.

The commands of Capt. J. T. Elliott, 66th N. C. Troops, and Capt. Sandlin, came up with these villains twice and succeeded in killing some 40 or 50 of them and wounding many more. They fled like wild deer on being fired upon and were shot as they ran. A bright mulatto was captured and mistaken for a white man and sent as a prisoner to Richmond, by Capt. Elliott. On learning this, Gen. Wilde seized three ladies, one a relative of Capt. Elliott, and *ironed them* and took them off, notifying Capt E. that if his negro soldier was hanged he would hang the ladies. Capt. E. replied that he would do his duty unawed by the General's threat.

With these helpless women a number of men were also captured. All of them were kept confined in the garret story of a house in Elizabeth City—in one room—the women being made to cook for the men, and this for several days.

One of Col. R. Griffin's men, 62d Georgia cavalry, was captured and on the bare statement of a negro was hanged by Gen. Wilde as a guerilla. This murder was ordered and witnessed by Wilde. On the Yankee retreat he was taken, with the other prisoners, as far as Hinton's cross roads, and there in the presence of the women and the negro troops he was hanged from a cross beam of an old house, where his remains were found forty four hours afterwards by his Colonel and buried with military honors. On the back of the murdered soldier was a label with the following words:

"Here *hangs* a guerilla of Pasquotank county, Daniel Bright, by order of Brig. Gen'l Wilde."

The unfortunate man's name was Daniel Bright, Co. L, 62d Georgia cavalry.

Col. Griffin after overcoming many obstacles travelled sixty miles to come upon these murderers and thieves, but hearing of his approach they fled.

We have not space to narrate the many heartless cases of cruelty perpetrated by these fiends. One or two cases will suffice as examples. They entered the house occupied by the wife of Capt. Elliott's Quartermaster. As the poor woman sat at the fire she saw them deliberately cut a hole in the middle of the floor and build a fire therein to consume her house over her. She asked them if they could do that? They replied they could and would. "Then burn," was the lady's patriotic response, "and I'll be a stronger Confederate than ever." A little before daylight the woman's husband returned and found his wife and four children huddled together in the corner of a fence in sight of the ashes of their late home!

In one other case they fired a residence without giving any notice to the sleeping inhabitants who were saved from death only by the timely waking up of a faithful slave.

We have strung these incidents together without regard to their legitimate connection and from memory. Of their general accuracy our readers may have no doubt, for the facts were received by us in person from Col. Griffin and Capt. Elliott. The part taken by these officers in the matter gave them full opportunity for knowing all the facts: Capt. Elliott and Capt. Sandlin hung upon the heels of the scoundrels for many miles and killed, wounded and captured as many of them as their own commands consisted of.

Ral. State Journal.

The Mutiny at Fort Jackson.—Late yankee journals inform us that the reported mutiny at Fort Jackson, on the part of their colored brethren, was a very trifling affair, and that not a life was lost. The Mobile Advertiser of the 22d says it had an interview on the morning of the 22d, with a gentleman just through from the Trans-Mississippi Department, who brings confirmation of the report of the mutiny at Fort Jackson, and the turning over of the Fort to the Confederates confined there. The intelligence was brought out by Capt. Louis J. Girard, Chief of Ordnance on Gen. Gardner's staff at Port Hudson, and James A. Fisher, Capt. First Tennessee Battalion. These gentlemen succeeded in effecting their escape from New Orleans. They say that the news was not allowed to be published in the New Orleans papers, but that it was undoubtedly true.

The Advertiser mentions an important rumor—which it gives for what it is worth—that a French Corvette had sunk a Federal gunboat near the mouth of the Rio Grande. The gunboat overhauled and fired into a schooner loaded with cotton, sailing under the French flag. The corvette resented the affront, and fired into and sunk the offending gunboat.

From Texas.—Houston dates of the 3d received. In Texas the yankee invasion is the sole topic, with young and old pressing to the scene of action with unprecedented unanimity. Negroes and cattle were being taken to the interior, stripping the coast for fifty miles. The enemy were at Matagorda Pass to prevent an advance along the beach to the mouth of Brazos river.

Yankee Vessel Burned.—Some pickets from the "Old Dominion Guard" report the entire destruction, by fire, of the Yankee steamer Crusader, near New Point Comfort. The Crusader was a vessel of about 400 tons carrying 12 guns.

Richmond Whig.

Arrival of Federal Prisoners.—Major Thompson, of the 11th (Abolition) Tennessee Cavalry, together with 8 officers and 125 privates, belonging to Burnside's corps, captured in East Tennessee by Gen. Longstreet, were received at the Libby Prison yesterday, via the Danville train.

Preparations are being made to remove a number of the prisoners now in this city, further South.

Rich. Examiner.

High Figure.—A South Carolina exchange says brandy is $250 per gallon in Richmond, and adds that our legislators must have dry times.

Bank Stock for Sale.

APPLY to A. McLEAN
Nov. 23, 1863. 88-tf

OBSERVER.

FAYETTEVILLE.

MONDAY EVENING, JANUARY 4, 1864.

MORE AGITATION.—In its great anxiety to make peace with the yankees, the Raleigh Standard and its adherents appear determined that we shall have no peace at home. There are unmistakeable signs in that paper that a new programme of county meetings and resolutions is arranged for the Spring Courts; and we are credibly informed that a set of resolutions has already been prepared *in Raleigh* and sent down *to* Johnston county for adoption there, and afterwards in every other county in which meetings of the right stripe can be gotten up. The object this time is to agitate for a State Convention, in which, in the language of the Standard, *"the people of North Carolina will take their own affairs into their own hands,"* that is, in plain language, go out of the Confederacy. This, instead of making peace with the yankees, would but add a civil war to the foreign war now raging. If the people are not prepared for this, let them beware of the teachings of the Standard, which educated the people in the doctrine of secession, voted us into the present war, and pledged "the last dollar and the last man" to maintain it. Who will guarantee that if the Standard should get the people saddled with another war it would be any more true than to the present?

THE PRINCIPALS OF SUBSTITUTES.—The bill to put in the army those who have hired substitutes passed Congress with remarkable unanimity—the House by 52 to 18, the Senate by 17 to 2. The Richmond Dispatch says that it has produced a decided fluttering among the principals, "and the highways leading North from Richmond have been crowded with the fleeing Israelites; in this instance, without a Moses to lead them in their journeyings. We heard yesterday of a case in which *three thousand dollars* were offered for a hack by two gentlemen of the Hebrew persuasion to transport them and their baggage to the banks of the Rappahannock."

It is stated that measures have already been taken in Virginia to test the constitutionality of the law. Our own opinion is and has been that it is not constitutional, as it seems to us to "impair the obligation of a contract." But we remember to have read when a boy, the principle laid down in one of the decisions of the Supreme Court of North Carolina, that it was more important that the law should be *settled* than that it should be *just*. This dictum startled us at first, but a little reflection satisfied us that it is wise; for if the law is to be differently construed by every successive Judge, or even by the same Judge under different circumstances, no man will ever be able to tell when he is either obeying or violating the law. Well, a few years ago the Legislature conferred a charter upon the stockholders of the Bank of Fayetteville, which charter permitted that bank to issue one and two dollar notes. This was regarded by the bank and by many eminent jurists as one of those contracts the obligation of which the constitution expressly declared must not be violated. But the Supreme Court of North Carolina decided that it was not a contract,—only a privilege which the State's necessities or well being entitled it to recall. We did not concur in the correctness of that opinion, but it settled the law, and we as law abiding people submitted. So in regard to this substitute business. Our individual opinion is that the law of Congress made the government a party to the contract between the principal and the substitute, and that the full discharge given by the government to the principal—prodigious blunder as it was—was final, and that the government had no further claim to the services of the principal in the army. But what is our individual opinion against that of the Supreme Court of North Carolina? If the State had a right as a mere matter of expediency, to recall a "privilege" of issuing small notes, we take it for granted that the Supreme Court must decide that in a case of governmental life and death such as the present war presents, the Congress has a right to recall the "privilege" of exemption from service in the army.

THE HABEAS CORPUS.—In publishing the first article of "Civic," we spoke of it as exposing the *"abuses"* of "the great writ of right," and as making "suggestions which may, if properly observed, *defeat all cases of fraud* while it will *leave the rights of honest applicants unimpaired*." It really seemed to us that no honest or good man could take exception to this, but that every such man would be glad to aid in preventing the abuse of the writ and in defeating fraud, of any kind. We were plainly then, as always, for "leaving the rights of honest men unimpaired." We are not a little surprised, therefore, to find our brief paragraph containing these expressions assailed by the Raleigh Standard as follows:—

"That the writ has been abused we do not doubt—every good thing is liable to be abused; but this does not justify covert attacks on the writ itself. The Fayetteville Observer was at one time a fearless and outspoken champion of this writ, and of every other means by which tyranny could be checked and the Constitutional rights of the citizen maintained; but since it has joined the Destructives it seldom if ever raises its voice in favor of personal liberty or against the strides of military power."

On this we remark, that there is not the shadow of a foundation for the insinuation that either the Observer or its correspondent has made any attack, covert or otherwise, upon the writ itself; that the Observer is now, as it has ever been, a fearless and outspoken friend of this writ, and of every means by which tyranny could be checked and the constitutional rights of the citizen maintained—(for which very purpose it is sustaining the war against Lincoln and Lincolnites;)—that the Observer has not "joined the Destructives"—(neither the Standard and its Destructives nor any others;)—and that the "personal liberty" spoken of by the Standard is probably the liberty of deserters to skulk in the woods—in favor of which the Observer has not raised its voice.

Our correspondent's article recited cases of fraud and showed how they were committed and how they may be prevented in future. The Standard's carping has very much the appearance of a desire that they should not be exposed and prevented.

FERNANDINA, FLORIDA.—The yankees in this subjugated town have been selling or stealing the property of the citizens. The prices at which real estate has been sold shows that they do not think much of their chance of holding the property. For instance, Judge Livingston's and Mr. Dawson's residences were sold at $5 each, and are occupied by yankee teachers. Mr. Yulee's brought $200, and was purchased by the Colonel of the 11th Maine. Mrs Mendenhall's was bought at $101, by a negro woman named Rachael, belonging to Mrs. Crichton, of St. Mary's. Dr. Lesesne's was bought at $60, by a Mrs. Call, a baker, from Jacksonville. Col. Coachman's was purchased at $200, and is occupied by Commissioner Reed. The brick block, containing Savage and Wilson's stores, was purchased by Robinson, of Jacksonville, for the sum of $400.

A letter from Fernandina says:

"The town would scarcely be recognized by any of its former citizens. Most of the fences have been used for fuel, the wanton wrecking of the unoccupied buildings has shared the same fate, while the shattered windows, and doors and broken plastering tell a mournful tale of ruin and wanton devastation. The flower gardens are barren wastes, while the beautiful grove around the Park has been felled. The Baptist Church has been converted into a theatre, the Presbyterian Church into an Academy of Science, where sundry Connecticut 'second lieutenants' are engaged in teaching the youthful Ethiopians to sing hosannas in praise of freedom and 'Mister Lincoln.' All the iron, trucks, wheels, tools and other materials of the Florida Railroad Company, were bid off to Robinson at $500, shipped by him to New York. They were seized on their arrival in that city, by the Yankee Government, and sold at $10,000.

DEATHS OF SOLDIERS.—In Hospital at Richmond, 8th Nov., John A. Quinn, of Duplin county, about 30 years of age.

PEACE PROPOSITIONS.—We entirely concur (except upon one point) in the views so well expressed by the Charlotte Democrat in the subjoined article. Most earnestly desiring peace, in common with everybody in North Carolina and doubtless everybody in the Confederacy, there has been no time since the war began that we would not have hailed with joy the adoption of any lawful and feasible means of securing that great blessing, coupled of course with the indispensable condition of independence. The Democrat proposes a course free from the vital objections against the plans of the so-called peace party in this State, (viz: that "the people" should appoint commissioners—which they have no right by their own constitution to do;—or that this State should treat by itself with the yankees—which would be a fatal stab to the honor and interests of the State;—or that there should be any "Constitution as it is and Union as it was"—an idea not for an instant to be entertained.) The reasons given by the Democrat are sound, even though there be no apparent ground for hope that the yankees will be wise enough to entertain the proposition or appoint commissioners to treat with ours.

The point upon which we dissent from the Democrat's proposition, is, that instead of any member from North or South Carolina or Georgia moving in the matter, we think it would be proper that the President should do so, and that he should appoint the Commissioners, with the concurrence of the Senate, instead of Congress appointing them.

The following is the Democrat's article:—

"Inasmuch as a proposition has been made in the Lincoln Congress to appoint three Commissioners to visit Richmond and arrange terms of peace on the basis of a re union, and although that proposition was voted down by a large majority, we think the Confederate Congress might now, with propriety, appoint Commissioners to go to Washington and arrange terms of peace on the basis of *separation* and the independence of the Confederacy. We have no hope that such propositions would be entertained, at this time, by the Lincoln Government, but it would do no harm to make the trial, as it is well known to every intelligent man that our Government is anxious and ready at any time to make peace on such terms.

"The proposition ought to be made, if for no other reason, in order to satisfy that portion of our people who seem to think that all that is necessary to secure peace is for our authorities to make some sort of proposals to the Lincoln Government. If the commissioners are appointed, and Lincoln refuses to receive them, why all our people will then see what they have to depend on, and all who are not traitors at heart to their country will co-operate in sustaining our cause and producing concord and unity among ourselves.

"The proposition ought to be made for another reason: in order to throw the responsibility of rejecting it on the Lincoln Government. The people at the North might be enabled to see the matter in a new light, and a revolution in public sentiment effected which might overthrow the Lincoln dynasty and place men in power who would be disposed to commence negotiations for peace.

"A proposition of this sort ought to come from our national authorities and not from a State Legislature or a State Convention. Separate State action on this subject would produce discord and fail to effect any good, however patriotic the object of the movers might be. Besides, Congress is the proper place where such propositions should emanate.

"We do not make these suggestions at the instigation of any man in or out of office, but we make them because we presume it is a fact beyond doubt that our authorities have always been willing to make peace on terms which will acknowledge the independence of the Confederate States. This being so, we think the appointment of peace commissioners by Congress would do no harm if it failed to secure peace. And we think it would be best for the proposition for the appointment of such Commissioners to come from some member of Congress from North Carolina, or South Carolina, or Georgia."

DR. RANSAY'S POSITION.—The Charlotte Democrat discredits, as we did, the story written to the Baltimore American from Washington city, that letters had been received there from conservative members of Congress from North Carolina, asking upon what terms the Southern States would be received back into the Union The Democrat says:

"We do not believe that any such letters have been written by any one elected to the Confederate Congress, though we do think that the course and conduct of some of those who were elected last November have led the yankees to believe that they were in favor of re-union. The member elected from this District, Dr. Ramsay, expressly declared during the canvass that he was opposed to a re-union under any circumstances; and while we believe he was honest in making such a declaration, we feared that the tone of his speeches and circular would deceive the enemy into the belief that he (as well as certain other candidates) was in favor of some sort of terms of re-union. Here at home the course pursued by the so-called 'conservative' candidates was looked upon as merely intended to secure an election, while at the North it was viewed in the light of opposition to the Confederacy. It may be that some traitor in this State has written to Washington to know on what terms a re-union could be effected, but we do not believe that any member of Congress, or any elected member, would disgrace himself by making such an inquiry. Any one who would do so deserves a felon's death, because it misleads the enemy and encourages him to continue the war against us."

In corroboration of the Democrat's opinion that the peace humbug was merely used to secure an election, we may mention that we have been informed, and believe, that one of the candidates elected openly boasts that that was *his* motive, and declares that he is as good a war man as any one. It may be so, and we hope it is so, but he has certainly done more harm to the Confederate cause than he can ever repair, and more good to the yankee cause than if he had been in the yankee army with a musket on his shoulder, or in the yankee Congress voting for all Lincoln's proclamations.

THE EVIL OF LONG COMMUNICATIONS, OBITUARIES, &c.—The Richmond Sentinel, like ourselves, is afflicted with more communications than it can publish. It very pertinently advises correspondents to be "brief and to the point. Omit all preface and introduction, and all attempts at swelling sentences, and say at once, truthfully and candidly, what is wished. Only such communications as a general rule, can be printed, and only such would be read if printed." If the Sentinel had written a column on the subject it could not have presented its useful suggestions with half the force of the above.

The most difficult cases to manage are long obituary notices. In renewing his subscription last week, one of our subscribers begged that we would leave their space in his paper blank. They are often spun out by words of no meaning, and sentences of no point, and lines divided so as to look like poetry yet without being either poetry or rhyme. They are usually of merely individual interest, in which the public generally cannot be concerned and therefore those who write them should be careful not to impose upon either the public or publishers anything more than is necessary to present what is wished truthfully and candidly. We do not charge for inserting obituaries of soldiers (except for the so called poetry which some of them contain,) but we beg that those who write them will be considerate of the public feelings and make them short.

PAY DAY.—The high prices at which negroes have hired and houses rented during the past few days, indicate, as we think, that people have not sufficiently considered what may be, and most probably will be, the value of money when pay day comes round twelve months hence. It is a matter of comparatively small consequence what price a man pays for a thing he needs, provided he pays cash down and leaves no debt to be provided for a year hence. But an obligation for a thousand dollars, made now, to be paid a year hence, may prove to be met in a currency worth five times as much as that existing at present. Thus, though the debtor will still have only the thousand dollars to pay, that sum may be harder to obtain then, owing to the scarcity of money, than five thousand dollars are now. Beware of incurring debts now. Rather pay as you go, and pay up every thing that you owe. And then the operations of any currency law or tax law that Congress may enact will have but little power to harm.

TOWN AFFAIRS.—The annual statement of the Mayor and Commissioners has been published. We make the following synopsis:

Receipts and Disbursements.—The net receipts into the treasury have amounted to $20,969 12, viz: From Taxes (collector's commissions, &c deducted) $18 106 93; market stalls &c. $166 80; auction tax $157 80; fines $200 90; scales $286 40; liquor dealers $1500; drays, wagons, &c. $214 02; old balance $336 27.

The disbursements have been: Interest on Railroad bonds $6000; salaries $2926 95; work on wards, streets &c. $2457 26; payment of interest and principal of debt $6714 97; gas lights $984 75; sanitary regulations $228 50; miscellaneous $697 35—$20,109 77. Cash balance on hand $859 25.

Debt.—The debt of the town (apart from its bonded railroad debt) is $6000, viz: At Bank of Clarendon $2500, Bank of Fayetteville $1500, Bank of N. Carolina $2000. Of assets it has in cash and bonds $1785 11. Balance to be provided for $4214 89. Last year the debt was $11,161,53.

The Sinking Fund has a cash balance of $4496 36, to meet $495 of unclaimed coupons and $2910 do. due the 1st inst. There are outstanding $97,000 of bonds issued to pay the railroad subscription of $100 000.

Flour Warehouse.—H. B. Solberry, Inspector, reports that 8321 bbls of flour have been inspected during the year—a decrease of 2292 bbls.

Town Scales.—J. P. Leonard, Weigh master, reports that 585,050 lbs of fodder, hay, shucks, &c., in 1143 wagons and carts, have been weighed—decrease 146, 752 lbs. Price of fodder has ranged from $2 to $10; hay and shucks from 1 25 to $8.

Deaths.—Wm. Williamson, Sexton, reports 62 interments, viz: In July 5, Feb'y 7, March 3, April 4, May 6, June 9, July 4, August 8, Sept'r 4, Oct'r 4, Nov'r 2, Dec'r 3. They were aged: 5 years and under, 13; 10 years, 2; 20 years, 5; 30 years, 4; 40 years, 8; 50 yrs. 5; 60 years, 8; 70 years, 7; 80 years, 5; 90 years, 1. White males 21, females 22; colored males 10, females 9. In 1862 the total of interments was 93.

CONGRESS.—In the Senate, on Wednesday, the House bill in relation to principals of substitutes was passed as follows:—

A Bill to be entitled an act to put an end to exemption from military service of those who have heretofore furnished substitutes.

Whereas, In the present circumstances of the country, it requires the aid of all who are able to bear arms, the Congress of the Confederate States do enact, That no person shall be exempted from military service by reason of his having furnished a substitute; but this act shall not be so construed as to affect persons, who, though not liable to render military service, have, nevertheless, put in substitutes.

The vote was:—

Yeas—Messrs. Brown, Caperton, Clark, Clay, Davis, Dortch, Henry, Hill, Kenner, Jameson, Johnson of Ark., Maxwell, Phelan, Semmes, Simms, Sparrow, Wigfall—17.

Nays—Messrs. Johnson of Georgia, and Orr—2

In the House, on Wednesday, Mr. Russell, of Va., offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be instructed to report a bill to repeal all exemptions from military service now allowed by law to any of the white male residents between the ages of 18 and 45 years, except the exemption for disability and the exemptions of persons holding office in or under the Confederate and State Governments, or employed in State Ordnance Departments, of ministers of the Gospel, and of State troops as now allowed by law, and also to report a bill to regulate details.

The resolution was modified so as to be of inquiry, and adopted. The subject was already before the committee.

Mr. Gaither, of N. C., offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of providing by law that all persons connected with the railroads and express companies, assistant quartermasters and commissaries, agents and employees of every description, justices of the peace, and militia officers within the ages of conscription, be immediately enrolled in the army; and that said committee inquire into the propriety of declaring that it shall not be lawful to detail from the military service any person to work in any woolen or cotton factory, forge, furnace, foundry, or for any other company or individual enterprise whatever, except the army in the field.

Mr. Gaither addressed the House warmly on the subject, saying that the number of exemptions and details was a disgrace to the various States. In his own State there were nineteen hundred details for which slave labor might be as well employed. The resolution was passed.

On Thursday, the Senate was in executive session. The House soon after meeting went into secret session to receive the report of the special Committee on the currency.

On Friday there was no session of the Senate, that body having adjourned to Monday. In the House several Senate bills were appropriately referred, but no business of interest done.

The Currency Question.—This question, upon which are hinged so many vital interests, is now fairly before Congress, the special committee to whom the question was referred in the House of Representatives having submitted their report. As this report was received and read in secret session, of course very little is known to the public of its provisions. This much we have learned, however, that the scheme of the committee is embodied in two separate bills—the one providing for the final disposition of the existing currency, and the other proposing a scheme of taxation upon which to base the new system to be inaugurated.

As stated, we have little knowledge of the provisions of either of these bills, but have some indirect information that the first contemplates a rapid and complete absorption of the present circulation by a judicious system of funding. Of the latter, we may confidently predict that the taxes will be piled on heavily enough to give satisfaction to the most liberal and patriotic supporter of the Government.—*Rich. Dispatch, 2d inst.*

Wilmington.—Signs of a winter campaign on the coasts of North and South Carolina increase, and the deep laid plot which began with Grant's retreat from Kingsgold developes itself rapidly. The yankee preparations are so nearly complete that we may look for the first blow within a week or two. Charleston and Savannah are both silenced, but the opinion that Wilmington is to be the point of main attack gains strength daily. The President and the War Department are not deceived. They know that the enemy's fleet is now large enough and enough of his troops idle to enable them to make a combined, simultaneous attack on the three points named. Many men and great vigilance will be required to ensure the defeat of all the assaults. It is no secret that proper dispositions have been decided upon. This matter was, no doubt, fully discussed when Gen. Lee was in the city.

Wilmington is of special interest to both parties. It is the only port of any importance left us, as the enemy is well aware. His blockading fleet has been largely increased, and imports are becoming of rare occurrence, but the peculiar approaches are such as to forbid hope of a complete stoppage of blockade running, save by the capture of the city. This has been definitely agreed upon by the Cabinet at Washington, and already the premonitory symptoms are visible. It is believed that Butler has concentrated 20,000 men at Washington, N. C., and no longer than Sunday last the salt works some twenty miles from Wilmington were destroyed. The fleet, numbering now 26 sail, awaits only the arrival of the Dunderburg and other iron clads and additional men to commence operations. If Wilmington is taken, Charleston falls by an attack in the rear.

Fortunately we have an able and vigilant General in command at Wilmington. We take it for granted that the President has listened to his suggestions, and that forces amply sufficient to hold the place are in position, ready to be concentrated at a moment's warning. Past experience has taught the Executive not to repeat the policy which cost us New Orleans, Galveston, Roanoke Island, and other places. A dilatory course now would bring down upon him the unanimous condemnation of the people. Confident that he will do his whole duty in the approaching crisis, we await the attack on Wilmington, Charleston and Savannah with firmness and hope.—*Richmond Whig.*

MARRIED,

In Robeson county, 31st Dec'r 1863, by Rev. Hector McLean, Dr. A. D. McLEAN and Miss MARY, daughter of the late Archib'd McCallum.

On the 29th of November, by Dr. George Kirkman, Mr. S. G. Norwood of the 26th Regt N. C. T., to Miss MARTHA HACKNEY.

Also, on the 24th December, by J. M. Stout, Esq., Mr. JOHN TERRY to Miss MARTHA WARD; all of Chatham.

Spirit of the Age and Standard please copy.

From the Army.—Our scouts report a movement among the Yankees in Culpeper. A large force—said to be two or three army corps—have crossed to the South side of the Rappahannock. Whether Meade contemplates an advance, or is making a feint to draw attention from other quarters, time will discover. The condition of the roads will certainly suspend operations for several days to come.—*Rich. Sentinel, 2d inst.*

Fight near Greenville.—A collision occurred yesterday morning between a force of the enemy and a Confederate force near Greenville, N. C. The enemy was driven back. We lost some ten to fifteen men killed, wounded, &c. A company of infantry of ours reported to have been taken Prisoners, were surrounded, but cut their way out with the loss of only one man.

Wil. Journal, 1st.

From East Tennessee.—JONESBORO', Jan. 1, 1864.—A courier from Morristown reports that heavy skirmishing has been going on between our cavalry and the enemy, who were advancing in that direction. No particulars received further than that their advance had been driven back.

From Norfolk.—We conversed with a gentleman yesterday, who left Norfolk a few days since. He informs us that one man in Norfolk holds out firmly against Butler's order, requiring all male citizens of the place to take the oath of allegiance to the Lincoln Government. This is Wm. W. Hall, Esq., who says he will suffer death before he will renounce his allegiance to the Confederate Government.

The enrolling of all males between the ages of 18 and 45, was progressing rapidly—Butler having ordered that the work must be completed by the 1st of January. The draft will immediately go into operation, and it is estimated that there are 600 young white men in Norfolk city alone, who have been enrolled. The negro regiments are all uniformed and equipped.

Among the few in Portsmouth who have peremptorily refused to take the oath is Arthur Emmerson, Esq., County Court Clerk.

All the residences and other property of refugees from Norfolk have been seized by the Federal and Pierpont officers, and are now occupied by the minions of either Lincoln or Pierpont. The city is said to be rapidly filling up with the scum and dregs of Yankee society.—*Pet. Express, 2d inst.*

FOR THE OBSERVER.

The Cumberland Hospital Association gratefully acknowledges the receipt of $10 from Mrs. H. H. Strong of Alabama; three excellent domestic blankets from Mrs. J. C. Blocker; 2 pre drawers from Mrs. Grant.

The Young Ladies' Knitting Society propose giving a set of Charades this Evening, for the benefit of the Soldiers. Doors open at 7; to commence at 7½. Admission one dollar.

DIED,

In Bladen county, on the 26th ult., of pneumonia, SARAH, second daughter of Theophilus and Rebecca Faircloth, aged 19 years and 23 days, a dutiful and lovely child, and a consistent member of the Baptist Church. Her many virtues, sweet temper, and pious devotion to the service of her Saviour, afford the blessed assurance to her afflicted relatives that it is through the mercy of Him who doeth all things well, she has been removed from a world of sorrow to an eternity of peace and joy. Parents, weep not for your child—rather rejoice in the comforting belief that she is an angel in heaven, and awaits to welcome you home.

Com.

Farm for Rent and Land for Sale,

AT AUCTION.

ON Tuesday the 12th inst., will be rented at Auction, at the Market House in Fayetteville, a PLANTATION containing 94 acres, about 40 acres of which are cleared, a part fresh cleared low grounds; and on the premises is a good Dwelling House, situated five miles below Fayetteville, formerly the land of Henry Carter.

At the same time will be sold, 5½ acres of land on Hay Mount, South of the Arsenal and near the residence of John Jackson—an excellent building place with a superior spring of water.

At same time will be rented for one year, the commodious Residence known as the Hooper place, situated on Church Lane.

Will sell at same time, 1 Sewing Machine.

JOHN H. COOK, Aust'r.

Jan'y 2, 1864. 94-2t

P. TAYLOR

OFFERS for sale, 1 case of Madder Prints; White Flannel; Black and White Spool Cotton; Fine Brown Sugar; Rio Coffee; Black Pepper; Shoe Thread; 250 Sacks Sound Salt, mostly made in 1862; a few Sacks Alum Salt; Liverpool Salt.

Jan'y 4, 1864. 94-3t

Presbyterin 2 times inside.

NOTICE.

MY name has been placed at the head of a ticket for Mayor, not by my consent, and if elected would not serve. I will serve as a Commissioner if elected.

A. A. McKETHAN.

Jan'y 2, 1864. 1tpd

Physician's Card.

DR. D. A. CAMPBELL (late of Marion, S. C.,) has removed to Fayetteville and taken an office on Bow street, where he may be found at all times, with an ample stock of Medicines, to answer Professional calls. Satisfactory reference furnished, &c.

Jan'y 2, 1864. 94-3mpd

I Want to Hire

A SUPERIOR Cook, Washer and Ironer, for the year.

D. CASHWELL

Jan'y 2. 1tpd

Mineral Springs Academy.

THE Exercises of this Institution will be resumed on the Second Monday in January, 1864.

Rates of Tuition: $20, $30 and $40 per Session.

Board will be raised according to the prices of provisions.

N. D. J. CLARK, Principal.

Jackson Springs, Dec'r 30. 94-3tpd

Wood Wanted.

SEALED Proposals will be received until the 10th inst., for one hundred cords sound OAK WOOD, delivered at the Arsenal.

MATTHEW P. TAYLOR,

Major and A. A. Q. M.

Jan'y 2, 1864 94-10th

Wagons and Mules for Sale.

THE subscriber will sell to the highest bidder, on Friday the 15th day of Jan'y 1864, at Turner's Store, Harnett county, one ROAD WAGON, GEAR and team of four large and well broke MULES; also one excellent Timber Wagon, nearly new, with heavy Swedes iron tyre; one Straw Cutter; one Grind Stone; several articles of Merchandize too tedious to mention; some Cattle, Hogs and Goats. Terms made known on day of sale.

JAMES M. TURNER.

Dec'r 26, 1863 1tpd

Harnett County.

THE Magistrates of Harnett County are ordered to meet at the Court House in Lillington, on the 2d Monday in January 1864.

R. C. BELDEN, Ch'm'n.

Dec'r 31, 1863 94-2t

NOTICE.

ALL persons are cautioned against trading for a Bond of FIFTY DOLLARS payable to John C Jacobs, dated about 7th November, 1863. The consideration for which having failed, I am therefore determined not to pay the same.

H. R. McLEAN.

Dec'r 28, 1863. 1tpd

NOTICE.

THE undersigned having at November Term, A. D., 1863, of Robeson County Court, obtained letters of Administration on the Estate of Elizabeth Smith, dec'd, hereby gives general notice to all persons having claims against said Estate to present them for payment within the time prescribed by law, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of a recovery. Debtors to said Estate will please make immediate payment.

JOHN McMILLAN, Adm'r.

Dec'r 9, 1863 94-3tpd

$10 Reward,

WILL be paid for the apprehension and delivery to me of HENRY ALONZO, a mulatto free boy, about 18 years of age. He is bound to me as an apprentice. I hereby forewarn all persons from harboring said boy.

H. WHALEY.

Fayetteville, Jan'y 1, 1864 94-3tpd

Stray Cow.

A RED and white Cow is at Mrs Johnson's, (Liberty Point,) sick or disabled. The owner will come and prove property, pay charges and take her away.

Jan'y 4. 1tpd

FAYETTEVILLE MARKET.—January 4.

REVIEW OF THE MARKET.

Bacon 2 25 to 2 50. Pork 1 25 to 1 75. Lard 2 25
Beef 50 cts. by side, 50 @ retail.
Beeswax 2 50. Butter 3 50 to 4 00.
Cotton 1 35. Coffee 12 50.
Cotton Yarn—$10 to 350 per bunch.
Dried Fruit—Apples 00. Peaches 75.
Eggs 2 00 per dozen.
Extract Logwood $3 to $6 per lb.
Flour 85 00 to 95 00.
Flaxseed $6 per bu.
Fodder 10 00. Hay 8 00. Shucks 6 00 to 7 00.
Grain—Corn 10 00. Wheat 20 00. Rye 8 00 to 10 00. Oats 6 00 to 7 50. Peas $8 to $10
Hides—Green 2 50 to 3 50. Dry 4 50 to 6 00.
Iron—Swedes 3 00 to 3 50.
Leather—Upper 12 00 per lb., Sole $10.
Liquors—Corn Whiskey 40 00. Apple and Peach Brandy 45 00.
Molasses—Country made $10 to $11; N. O. 10 to $12
Nails 3 00 to 3 50 per lb.
Onions 10 00 per bushel.
Potatoes—Irish $7 50 per bushel; sweet 6 00.
Rice 40 to 50 cts.
Sugar 4 00.
Spirits Turpentine 1 80 to $2 per gallon.
Fayetteville 4-4 Sheetings 90 to 3 50
Salt 15 00 per bushel
Tallow 2 50. Wool $4 to $6.

Corrected Weekly. N. C. OBSERVER.

JOHN H. COOK, Auctioneer.

Wharves, Store and Dwelling House,

TO RENT AT AUCTION.

2 WHARVES at Campbellton Landing;
2 Warehouses on Water Street;
1 Warehouse in rear of above;
1 Improved Lot, No. 10, in Lower Fayetteville;
1 Do. No. 11, do do;
1 Dwelling House, Burgess Street;
1 Two story Brick Tenement on South side of Hay street, adjoining Mr. E. F. Moore.

The above property will be rented at the Market House in the town of Fayetteville, on Tuesday Jan'y 12th, 1864.

M. A. RUSH, Adm'x.
BENJ. RUSH, Adm'r.

Dec'r 26, 1863 93-3t

Real Estate at Auction.

ON the 12th day of January 1864, the STORE and LOT known as Willkings's Auction Store; fronts on Hay, Maxwell and Franklin streets, adjoining the Bank of Clarendon, will be sold at Auction.

JOHN H. COOK, Aust'r.

Dec'r 30, 1863 93-3t

FOR RENT,

MY FARM, known as the Myrtle Hill place, situated three miles North of town, on the Cape Fear River, including the large and comfortable dwelling house and office. There are one hundred and thirty acres of cleared land, lying mostly on the river and not subject to overflow.

For further information and terms apply to Mr Duncan McLaurin.

JAMES W. STRANGE.

Jan'y 4, 1864. 94tf

Plantation for Rent.

THE Shaw plantation, on Cape Fear, 2 miles from Town, is offered for rent the present year. For further particulars, apply to JAS. JENKINS.

Fayetteville, Jan'y 2, 1864 94-6t

IRON FOR SALE.

ON TUESDAY THE 19th DAY OF JANUARY NEXT,

At Lumberton,

We will offer for sale at public auction, about

20,000 Pounds of Iron,

in bars about 6 feet long, 2 inches wide and half an inch thick. This iron was used in the cages of the Jail lately burned.

JAIL COMMISSIONERS.

Dec. 29, 1863. 93-3tspd

LAND FOR SALE.

WE will sell to the highest bidder at Griffin's Bluff, Robeson county, on Saturday the 30th day of Jan'y 1864, the following LAND: 1st lot, Coward Swamp, Creek Swamp and the upland adjoining, containing seven or eight hundred acres. 2d lot, containing three hundred and four acres, known as the Conner place. 3d lot, containing six hundred and sixty acres in Columbus county, lying in the Creek Swamp, opposite Griffin's Bluff. Terms one half cash, the balance twelve months credit, note and approved security.

WILLIAM GRIFFIN.
ALLEN GRIFFIN.

Dec'r 28, 1863 93-4tpd

Negroes, Negroes for Sale.

THE undersigned at November Term 1863, was appointed Commissioner to sell the SLAVES of Nancy Daughtry, dec'd. Said slaves will be sold at Clinton, Sampson county, on Saturday 9th day of Jan'y next, consisting of two young men and one girl, all likely and of a good family of Negroes. Terms cash.

HENRY D. LEWIS, Com'r.

Dec'r 26, 1863. 93-3tpd

NOTICE.

THE subscriber having, at December Term 1863 of Cumberland County Court, qualified as Administrator on the Estate of John S. Ray, dec'd, hereby gives notice to all persons indebted to said Estate to make payment, and those having claims against the Estate to present them within the time limited by law, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of a recovery.

DUNCAN RAY, Adm'r.

Dec 28.

Further Notice.

ON Saturday 2nd of January 1864, at the residence of Neill Ray, I will sell the Personal Property belonging to the Estate of said John S. Ray, dec'd, consisting of one BUGGY and HARNESS, House Furniture, &c.

Also, at the same time and place, the NEGROES belonging to the said Estate and the Estate of Catharine Ray, dec'd, will be hired until the first of Jan'y 1865, consisting of one woman and child and 2 small girls. Terms at sale.

DUNCAN RAY, Adm'r

Dec'r 28, 1863 93-3tpd

Administration Sale.

BY virtue of an order of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions of Cumberland County, obtained at June Term, 1863, the subscriber as Commissioner of said Court, appointed in the case of James Jenkins, Adm'r of Angus Shaw, vs. the heirs at law of said Shaw, Petition to sell Real Estate, and at September Term 1863, in the case of the same vs. the same, petition to sell slaves, will on the 6th day of January, 1864, expose to public sale at the Market House in Fayetteville, at 12 o'clock, M., about 272 acres of Land, situated on both sides of the Wilmington road, about 8 miles from Fayetteville. Being that part of said tract left after laying off and allotting the dower to the widow. Also the following negroes, viz: Jem, aged about 20 years, Nancy, aged 17, and child about 18 months old. Terms at sale.

JAMES JENKINS,
Commissioner.

Fayetteville, Nov. 14, 1863. 81

LIST OF LETTERS

REMAINING in the Post Office at Fayetteville, N. C., Jan. 2, 1864. When called for please say they are advertised.

Thomas Anderson, Mrs L Butler, Miss Christian E Black, Miss Elizabeth Biggs, Miss Susan Blue, Mrs Mary J Bradley, Mrs Sarah Ann Brown, A C Clapp, Mrs K H Chapman, Archy A Cavell, Josiah B Carver, Miss Catharine Chavers, Lavina M Chance, A J Curtis, Owen Crumpler, P K Dickson, Lt J B Ellington, John W Evans, Mrs Mary Gains, David Gee, William Gillespie, Miss Elizabeth Holder, Mrs Eliza Holley, John S Holt, Mrs Eliza J Hall, Mrs Mary Hughes, Geo Harris, Susan Hall, J M Hall, D Hall, Rev Williamson Harris, W H Holt, Robt Hendrees, Miss Kitty Howard, Miss Emma Johnson, William J Jackson, H S Kirkland, James A Lee, O M Lutterloh, W L B Matthews, C H Winn, Thomas Moody, John G Matthews, Miss Flora McDonald, Mrs M A McMillan, Magnus McIntyre, Miss Sarah McMillan, Wm W Porter, Mrs Sally Parker, Jacob Pawcell, Mrs Ann Parker, Mrs Adeline Ray, Mrs Margaret Ray, Mr —— Rothwell, J S Raynor, Mrs Mary J Rayne, Miss N Robbins, Mrs Lawrence Smith, Annaka Sikes, Jno A Smith, Mrs Rebeca Smith, Mrs A J Smith, W G Taylor, Jas H Turlington, John Thompson, Mr Albert Walker, Miss Martha Wilson, W H Williams, Saml Walker, John S Webster, Harriett Waters.

JAS. G. COOK, P. M.

LOST.

LOST between A. A. McKethan's and J. A Worth's, a small black oil cloth POCKET BOOK, containing about ($46) forty six dollars, one $20 bill, two $10 bills, and one $5 bill and one $1 bill and some small bills and postage stamps. The finder will be liberally rewarded by leaving the same at A. A. McKethan's Carriage Repository.

A SOLDIERS' WIFE.

Dec'r 31, 1863 1t

CALENDAR FOR 1864.

	SUNDAY.	MONDAY.	TUESDAY.	WEDNESDAY.	THURSDAY.	FRIDAY.	SATURDAY.
JANUARY						1	2
	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	31						
FEBRUARY		1	2	3	4	5	6
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	28	29					
MARCH			1	2	3	4	5
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	27	28	29	30	31		
APRIL						1	2
	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
MAY	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	29	30	31				
JUNE				1	2	3	4
	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	26	27	28	29	30		
JULY						1	2
	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	10

From the Richmond Whig.

COTTON AND THE CURRENCY.

The quantity of cotton in the Confederate States is variously estimated. An agent sent by Mr. Seward, some time ago, to New Orleans, to report upon the cotton crop, puts down the crop of 1861 at 4,000,000 bales, and the amount then in our hands at 3,500,000 bales. In an official paper, upon the war in this country, laid before the British Parliament the present year, are the estimates of Mr. Cridland, late acting English Consul at Mobile, and Mr. Bunch, for many years English Consul at Charleston. The former puts down the quantity of cotton in the Confederey the 8th August 1862, at 3,000,000 bales; the latter, however, estimates it, about the same time, at 3,950,000 bales. The following is a statement which appeared a short time back in the Manchester Examiner, derived from a Confederate source:

Crop 1861		3,500,000 bales,
1862		1,000,000 "
1863		1,000,000 "
	Total	5,500,000 "
Exported	150,000	
Destroyed	850,000	
Consumed	1,500,000	
		2,500,000 "
Stock on hand 1st Sept., 1863,		3,000,000 "

Various estimates have appeared at different times in Southern papers, many of which place the quantity at 3,500,000 bales in the Confederacy. Perhaps an estimate at 3,000,000 bales the 1st January, 1864, will not be far wrong. Of this amount the government owns about 300,000 bales.

The average price of cotton in Treasury notes at this time is, perhaps, one dollar per pound, or $400 per commercial bale. It is much higher than this price near the blockade running ports. The value of all the cotton in the Confederacy by this calculation is about twelve hundred millions in Treasury notes, a sum one-third larger than the entire expenditure, so far, of the war. Yet 3,000,000 bales is but three-fourths of the amount of one year's crop before the cultivation of cotton was interrupted, and scarcely equals the amount of our annual surplus after supplying all the domestic wants of the country. At present European prices—at two thirds of a dollar per pound—it would amount to a sum in gold, or exchange, equal dollar for dollar, to every Confederate due since the war began. Might not these facts suggest some line of policy to the worthy heads of the State or Treasury Departments that would be calculated to improve the situation both of our foreign relations and our finances?

The value of 3,000,000 bales at one dollar per pound in Treasury notes, at the present depreciation of our currency, is about sixty millions in specie. That amount is just equal to the specie coupons of the thousand million loan proposed by the Secretary of the Treasury. It just equals the specie tax which he proposes to lay to meet the interest on those bonds. The loan itself, the object of which is merely to consolidate the debt of the country, reduced to specie, at present rates would realize fifty millions. Reducing the values of all those to the same basis, it then appears that for a loan of fifty millions in specie the Secretary proposes to pay sixty millions of interest per annum in the same currency. To meet this interest the Secretary proposes a tax of sixty millions in specie upon the country, equal, at our present market prices, to the specie value of 3,000,000 bales of cotton. But this amount of cotton can command a sum in Treasury notes one third larger than the entire debt of the war. Can it not be utilized to that end? We think it can to a considerable extent, and will demonstrate it in another connection, but not now.

The proportion of cotton imported by England was about 80 per cent. of American, and 20 per cent from other quarters. Owing to the greater exporting of inferior cotton to the continent than of the American, the proportion of the latter in England stood generally at about 85 per cent. It had become customary in England, and also on the continent, to hold two years' supply of cotton on hand in advance. But by the excess of importation of the crops of 1858, 1859 and 1860—shipments of the latter year being but little checked until July, 1861—a European supply for three years ahead was on hand at the breaking out of our war. "European as well as American statesmen," says the Manchester Examiner, "not being aware of the details of mercantile affairs, committed an error in thinking that the war would at once create a cotton "pinch." They not only made no allowance for the usual two years' supply over in stock, but for the extra quantity, equal to an additional year's wants." But they are now on their last year's surplus. It was estimated that on the 1st September, 1863, "the warehouses will contain but six months' supply of cotton and cotton goods; whereas they should have enough for two years." "Cotton is now selling at Liverpool at famine rates." "It will require three or four seasons of excessive crops to bring cotton down to its nominal price. Not only has the ordinary demand to be supplied, but the usual stocks have to accumulate." We make these quotations, also, from the Manchester Examiner.

After the close of our war, however speedily that may be, the result of its injuries to the agriculture interests of the country will cause, for a number of years, a great falling off in the quantity of cotton produced, and a much greater cost in its production. The condition, too, of our inland transportation facilities will add considerably to the expense at which it can be placed in market. The producer, before the war, could put his cotton in market and make a profit at 8 cents per pound. He will hereafter perhaps demand 20 cents per pound to re-instate his plantation for the losses by the war. But the war has taught us, and the world, the true value of cotton. It has shown us that it is worth at least two-thirds of a dollar per pound; that that price does not check its demand. European nations have seen fit to pay that price for it rather than attempt to relieve it from its present difficulties of reaching them, and without being able to supply a substitute. It is to our interest, as it is our just duty to ourselves, to take no less. Twenty cents a pound will fully satisfy the planter. It will enhance the value of his land; it will more than double that of his slaves; it will add incalculable millions, and thousands of millions, to the wealth of the country. The Government, too, will be justified in imposing at least a 10 cents export duty on every pound of cotton that leaves our country. Europe needs over two millions of bales of our cotton annually for actual supply, and the North will need near one million bales more. We can tax them, and they have signified their willingness to comply, to the extent of four hundred and eighty millions per annum for the Government, and one hundred and forty millions more to be scattered among our planters as an atonement for their persecution of their great benefactor—cotton. Can they retaliate? We will have the start upon them. It will be by our folly if we ever lose it. They need our cotton. We must dole it out to them only commensurately with their immediate wants. No more two years' supply in advance to them. There will then be no more wars on cotton. They are sick of the war on it now. Let them attempt to put restrictions on their trade with us. They dare not persevere in it. And if they did, it would be to our advantage. It would cause us to develope our resources—which our heavy import duties would favor—and make us independent of the world.

What we have said of the value of cotton, can be said also of our rice, our tobacco and our naval stores, though they are not valuable to us to so great a degree. But there is a result which we might effect by them. We can make them potential in raising us up allies, and perhaps in closing this war. We can propose to modify, or remove entirely, the import duty in favor of such nation or nations as may recognize and aid us. The bait would be tempting. The offer would not compromise our interests or our honor; nor would the bargain. They can never coerce the cultivation of cotton by force. They may uproot our institutions; they may desolate our land; they may attempt, as they have long been attempting, and are still attempting, under the stimulus of eight-fold prices, to produce it elsewhere; or they may undertake to produce it here in so much of our territory as may be wrested from us. But they can never produce cotton that can substitute American cotton. They can never produce American cotton in quantity or quality to supply the demand for it except by means of the very slaves and the system of labor now practiced by us. Nor can they ever surpass us in making our system of labor a blessing to the laborer and a benefaction to the world.

Attempted Escape of Confederate Officers from Fort Warren.—Drs. Gibbs and Freeman, late exchanged surgeons from Fort Warren, bring intelligence of several of our officers being in close confinement at that fort for an attempt to escape. In a note from Dr. Freeman he says that he was confined in Fort Warren when Major Reid Sanders, C. S. A., Lieuts. J. W. Alexander and James Thurston, of the Confederate steamer Atlanta, and Lieut. C. W. Read, of the Tacony, (who burnt the yankee revenue cuter off Portland,) effected a partial escape. A letter has also been received at the Navy Department from Europe relative to the same incident. We combine the accounts.

In August last some officers and sailors (H. B.) Pryde, Master's Mate of the Tacony, and Sherman, an old U. S. sailer imprisoned by the yankee Government for refusing to fight against the South,) came to an understanding that it was possible to get through the musket holes in the fort and so escape. On the night of the 18th of August the two sailors effected their egress from their cells, and having reached a little island a quarter of a mile off got a boat and returned for the officers. Being observed, however, by the sentinel, they were obliged to retreat, and next day, capturing a small sloop, "in the name of the Confederate States," they set sail and reached the Bay of Fundy in eight days, almost starved, and without having tasted water for five days.

The officers above mentioned got out of their room on the same night, as agreed. Major Sanders was the largest of the four who could be squeezed through with life left. To the others of their room-mates it was an absolute impossibility. They waited on the shore in vain for the boat till near morning, when they were successful in returning through the aperture to their quarters undiscovered. Some nights afterwards the adventure was renewed. Alexander and Thurston availed themselves of an old target, by which they reached the little island near. They also, however, were obliged to give up the intention of returning to take off the others. Maj. Sanders and Lt. Read, meanwhile, endeavored to get off with planks and oil cans, which they had fastened together, but their means were insufficient. Near daylight they again essayed their return to the cell; but the plank by which they were scaling the wall to the loop-hole, fifteen feet up, broke under Lt. Read. The noise attracted the sentinel, and they were discovered. Thurston and Alexander were also recaptured off Portland and returned to the fort. Upon refusing to give parole not to attempt escape again, they were all four closely confined in the casemates of the fort, where they remain.

The details of preparation for a compressive journey through a very small opening—by oiling, starvation, &c., for a week beforehand, are very amusing. They got out by a rope, and returned by the plank. It was deemed so incredible that a man could get through these contracted apertures that Stanton sent orders to have the experiment made by a live yankee. Since this the musket-holes have been divided by an iron bar, and a sentinel with a loaded gun walks under each one continually.—*Rich. Dispatch.*

"I'll See my Partner."—Strange devices were adopted by some of the hard up soakers on Christmas day, to get the wherewithal to feel the influence of "the day we celebrate," and none were more ingenious than that of a pretended mute, who took in some of the merchants that kept open doors for a few hours in the morning, to catch the early birds that chanced to fly their way. The mute aforesaid, after scrutinizing the sign over the door, pulled a slate out of his pocket, walked in, and writing on it the words, "Got any molasses?" handed it to the merchant. The latter taking the hint—namely: that the gentleman was a deaf mute—wrote down the word "Yes." The deaf mute added immediately the inscription, "How much do you ask for it?" The merchant jotted down, "fifteen dollars." The deaf mute wrote: "Let me see it." The merchant conducted him to the cellar, and gave him a look at the sorghum. Dummy tasted the same, and manifesting his satisfaction by sundry signs and grimaces, wrote upon his slate: "I'll see my partner." He then started out; but, as if having forgotten something, returned and jotted down the cabalistic sentence: "Got any first rate brandy." The merchant replied through the medium of the slate: "Yes—splendid." "Let me see it," responded Dummy in the same way; after cleansing the tablet with his coat sleeve. The merchant conducted him to a bright, particular barrel, drew out a few "tasters" full and poured the ruby liquor into a goblet; in which it was illuminated by the circumambient air to a magnificent advantage. Dummy took it—there was over half a pint in the goblet—viewed the surrounding scenery of shelves and boxes through it for a few moments, then slightly tasted it; grinned satisfaction and rubbed his belly; poised the goblet for a moment longer in the air, and then quietly tilted it to his lips, and the brandy disappeared "like a dream," from the astonished vision of the merchant. Dummy hoisted his slate again, wrote upon it the words: "I'll see my partner," made a bow and left. Some half dozen merchants were called upon, and "tested" in the same fashion, by the original, who at length gave in, and toddled down to one of the numerous 'rests for travellers,' on 17th street, and took a glorious, gratis slumber, for the rest of the day.—*Rich. Enquirer.*

Disease among the Prisoners.—The Danville Register says the small pox continues to spread among the yankee prisoners there, and there are now about 300 cases in all. The fatality among the prisoners from this and other maladies is very great. Several wagon loads are hauled out to the grave yard every day, from the General Hospital, besides those who die of small-pox.

Changes in N. C. Troops.—Col. John S. McElroy, 16th Regiment N. C. Troops, has resigned on account of wounds received in the battle of Chancellorsville.

Col. John A. McDowell, 1st Reg't N. C. Troops, has resigned.

Col. Robert C. Hill of the 48th Reg't N. C. Troops, died at his residence in Iredell county on the 5th inst.

THE YANKEE CONGRESS AND THE WAR.

Such is the interest to know the sentiment and temper of this body in regard to the prosecution of the war, that we embrace under one head, says the Richmond Examiner, the different war measures and propositions that have been brought forward in the body, with the votes on the same. These cannot be other than interesting, from the fact that they are the best medium we have thro' which to ascertain what the feeling of the people of the North really is in relation to the war.

The following resolutions were introduced by a member from Indiana:

"Whereas, The proclamations of the President of January, 1863, and December 8, 1863, in relation to emancipation, impose conditions of pardons and amnesty to persons who have participated in the existing rebellion, as well as conditions precedent to the re-establishment and re-organization of State Governments in the States to which said proclamations apply, which in the judgment of a large number of faithful citizens, has a tendency to give the rebellion the advantage of a changed issue, and to re-invigorate the otherwise declining insurrection in the South and to prolong the war; and

"Whereas, This House cannot but regard with anxiety the unprecedented and extraordinary claims and assumption of high prerogative by the President in said proclamation, especially in view of the fact that the President, in his inaugural address of the 4th March, 1861, declared: 'I have no purpose, directly or indirectly, to interfere with the institution in the States where it exists; I believe I have no right to do so, and I have no inclination to do so;' therefore

"Resolved, As the judgment of this House, that the maintenance inviolate of the constitutional power of Congress and the right of the States, and especially the right of each State to order and control its own domestic institutions, according to its own judgment exclusively, is essential to the balance of power on which the perfection and endurance of our political fabric of the Federal Union depends; and we denounce, as among the gravest of crimes, the invasion or occupation by armed force of any State, under the pretext or for the purpose of coercing the people thereof to modify or abrogate any of their laws or domestic institutions that are consistent with the Constitution of the United States; and we affirm the principle declared in this resolution to be a law alike to the President and the people of the United States."

Mr. Grinnell moved to lay it on the table, which was agreed to—ayes 90, nays 66.

Mr. Smith, of Kentucky, submitted a series of resolutions, of which the following is the first, viz:

"Resolved, That as our country and the very existence of the best government ever instituted by man is imperilled by the most causeless and wicked rebellion that the world has seen, and believing, as we do, that the only hope of saving the country and preserving this Government is by the power of the sword, we are for the most vigorous prosecution of the war until the Constitution and laws shall be enforced and obeyed in all parts of the United States, and to that end we oppose any armistice, or intervention, or mediation, or proposition for peace, from any quarter, so long as there shall be found a rebel in arms against the Government; and we ignore all party names, lines and issues, and recognize but two parties in this war—patriots and traitors."

Mr. Cravens moved to lay the resolutions on the table, which was disagreed to—60 against 100.

The above resolution was then agreed to by a vote of 98 ayes to 64 noes.

The vote was next taken on Mr. Smith's resolution, which was as follows:

"Resolved, That we hold it to be the duty of Congress to pass all necessary bills to supply men and money, and the duty of the people to render every aid in their power to the constituted authorities of the Government in crushing out the rebellion."

This resolution was agreed to by 152 ayes—only one vote against it.

In the debate on an appropriation asked for by the War Department, Mr. Harding, of Kentucky, offered a proviso that no part of the money thus appropriated should be used for the raising, arming and equipping of negro soldiers. The amendment was rejected—ayes 41, noes 105.

Exchange of Prisoners.—The flag of truce steamer New York arrived at City Point, Saturday, with five hundred Confederate prisoners—not sick or wounded—sent to be exchanged for the same number of Yankee prisoners. It appears from late United States journals, that Beast Butler has been appointed Commissioner for the Exchange of Prisoners, in place of Gen. Meredith, and as we are not advised of any negotiation between Judge Ould and the Beast, the presumption is that the latter has commenced his agency by resuming the exchange of prisoners—deferring the negotiation (if any can be held with him,) until the number of prisoners on each side is reduced by mutual exchange. We learn that five hundred Yankees were sent down to City Point last night.—*Richmond Whig.*

Death of Mrs. W. H. F. Lee.—Mrs. W. H. F. Lee, wife of the distinguished Confederate general of that name, who is now a prisoner of war at the North, breathed her last on Saturday, at the residence of Major Miles Seldon, Fifth street, between Cary and Canal. The funeral took place yesterday from St. Paul's church, and was largely attended by the numerous friends and relatives of the family, among them some of the highest military and executive officers of the Government.

Rich. Examiner, 28th.

A Visit to Gen. Lee's Army.—The editor of the Milton (N. C.) Chronicle has recently returned from a visit to Gen. Lee's army, and publishes some incidents and observations of the trip, from which we take the following. We are of the opinion that a longer stay with the army would have modified his impression, that discriminations were made against North Carolina soldiers in assignments to duty. While with that army for nearly a year, our own observation was, that the officers were strictly impartial in such matters. If the single instance in the first paragraph annexed be true, the inference is, that great confidence is reposed in the troops from North Carolina. They have certainly demonstrated that it has not been unworthily bestowed:—*Richmond Whig.*

"Six-tenths of the troops we met with in Virginia, in active service—we mean with the musket on the shoulder, and waiting the approach of Meade's army—were weather beaten and scar worn North Carolinians. All along the railroads, guarding bridges, and in bombproof, money-making places, we found nine-tenths to be Virginians. But most of the cavalry we saw dashing about in every direction, except in the face of danger, were Virginians on reindeer horses; these, however were straggliers.

"While one of Gen. Lane's men, (a North Carolinian,) was on picket not far from Chancellorsville in the late advance of Meade and while standing behind a tree within speaking distance of the enemy, a wild turkey came passing by, when the picket, unable to resist the temptation, fired and killed it. But he dared not venture to go and get it, lest he might be shot. Having re-loaded his gun he peeped from behind the tree at his prize, and perceiving a yankee in the act of taking it up, he fired again and dropped the yankee by the side of the turkey, where both remained until night, when the picket gathered in his trophies.

HABEAS CORPUS.

FOR THE OBSERVER.

The object of the act of Congress in providing for the exemption of shoemakers, blacksmiths and the like was, "not to confer privileges on classes, but to exonerate from military duty such number of persons skilled in the various trades &c. as could render more valuable service to their country by laboring in their respective occupations than by going into the ranks of the army." To entitle an applicant, therefore, to exemption as a mechanic of any of the classes specified, he must not only have been skilled and actually employed, habitually working for the public *at the time* he was enrolled and ordered into service, (as two of our Judges hold—the others all concurring, I believe, in the opinion that *"at the time"* refers to the passage of the act, 11th Oct. 1862,) but he must continue to be so actually employed so long as he claims exemption as such. The exemption being based solely upon the benefit supposed to be derived by the public from the applicant's services, so soon as he abandons his vocation, of course his exemption expires, or his right to it ceases to exist, as the case may be. In the first case of the kind, which I had an opportunity of seeing a decision upon, there was filed an affidavit in the handwriting of Chief Justice Pearson—by whom the decision was given—substantially as follows: "D. F. makes oath that he is a miller, skilled &c., and was actually engaged as such at the time he was enrolled and ordered into service, to-wit: — day of —— 1863, and that he continued to be so engaged from the date of said enrollment to the day on which he was arrested, to-wit: — day of —— 1863." This shows that it is material that the party should continue at his trade after he is enrolled, as well as that he should have been engaged thereat previously. Nevertheless, large numbers of deserters from the army, soldiers on furlough, and recusant conscripts who have been *in the woods* for twelve or eighteen months, are getting off on writs of Habeas Corpus, as such mechanics! The process by which this is done, as regards soldiers, was explained in a former communication. The mode is very similar with respect to recusant conscripts. Now the fact of a conscript taking the woods does not prejudice his rights in the eye of the law, in certain instances—in cases of substitution for example—like going to the army and receiving pay, bounty, &c.; a circumstance, by the way, which causes many well-meaning people, who do not understand "the reason of the thing," to say hard things of the Judges and the Law. But a mechanic, miller, &c. who voluntarily withdraws from society, and as a necessary consequence, abandons his "regular vocation," (that being now to keep out of the reach of the officers and shun all honest faces,) thereby as effectually surrenders his right to exemption as if he had gone into the army and received pay and bounty. Especially must this be so in regard to *school teachers and millers.* And yet almost every week, of late, numbers of persons, from a certain locality, who have been delinquent—that is, in common phrase, *lying out in the woods*—ever since the passage of the first conscript act, have been getting off upon writs of Habeas Corpus, as mechanics, millers, &c.! An instance could be cited where a man who was in the army twelve months and afterwards out of the army, with or without leave, for eighteen months more, was lately discharged upon a writ of Habeas Corpus, as a school teacher, although it is well known he had not taught school a day since he first went to the army, now nearly three years ago. And another instance, where a soldier who had been in the army continuously for more than two years, returned home on a short furlough and was discharged as a wagon maker. I have not been able to see the papers so as to ascertain the nature of the juggle by which these astonishing feats were accomplished, but am inclined to think that the principal means employed was *hard swearing.* Such frauds could have been so easily detected, too, by Judge Battle's wise expedient of requiring proof to be taken before a commissioner of affidavits, with notice to the enrolling officer. But I must give one more example somewhat in detail. A. B. C., being under 35, and having the least imaginable idea of going to the war, took to the woods in advance of any enrollment. Being unwilling to *press* his entire subsistence, he would steal a day now and then, when there were no hunters about, to work on his farm; and he was one day *captured* while hauling in wheat, and was lodged in jail. But an armed band of his *confreres* rescued him a few nights afterwards and restored him to his liberty—such as it was. A few weeks ago, hearing of the miraculous performances of the "great machine called the writ of Habeas Corpus," anxious to test its efficacy in his own behalf, and having *cobbled* a little in time on his own shoes, the idea was soon conceived and the plan digested. The petition and affidavit were accordingly drawn with all the skill and acumen conceivable, but still the case was thought doubtful. It would not do to make a failure, for then he might be carried to camp; and there was the jail-breaking too. So an extraordinary effort must be made, which resulted in the following endorsements being made across the back of the affidavit: "Respectfully examined and approved. X. Y., Lieut. Dist. No. —, — Reg't N. C. M.," and just below that, "Respectfully considered and approved. O. Q. Z., Adj't — Reg't N. C. M." Of course there was no further difficulty. He was discharged. And it may be interesting, to those who esteem official honesty, to know that these gentlemen, who so "respectfully examined, considered and approved" this affidavit, were *in the pay* of the petitioner to procure his discharge (from the custody of one of them) with a heavy contingent fee pending.

However glaring and notoriously fraudulent the means by which an applicant is discharged upon a writ of Habeas Corpus, under existing circumstances there is no remedy *after* he has been so discharged. For our excellent Governor, in his spirited and highly commendable determination to maintain inviolate the authority of our Civil Courts and Judges, issued an order to the Militia officers not to arrest nor permit the arrest of any one who has been discharged upon Habeas Corpus by any Judge of this State. Even where a mechanic has been discharged in this way, he may quit his trade, and, taking shelter under this order from the Governor, defy the enrolling officers. I have been informed that a man who was discharged by the Supreme Court as a salt-hand, provided himself with a copy of his discharge and a copy of Gov. Vance's order, and has ever since been peddling on tobacco, utterly secure from arrest by all sorts of military officials. And of *three* millers successively discharged as keepers of one little wet-weather mill.

CIVIC.

State of North Carolina,

MOORE COUNTY.

Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, October Term 1863.

Nathan Douglass and wife and others vs Bryan Douglass and Rabon Douglass.

Petition for Partition of Lands

IT appearing to the satisfaction of the Court, that the defendants reside beyond the limits of the State: It is therefore ordered that publication be made in the Fayetteville Observer for six successive weeks, for them to be and appear at our next Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, to be held for the County of Moore, at the Court House in Carthage, on the 4th Monday in January next, and then and there plead, answer or demur to said petition, or it will be heard ex parte as to them, and a decree rendered to divide the lands set forth in the petition.

Witness, A. H. McNeill, Clerk of our said Court, at office in Carthage, 4th Monday in Oct'r 1863.

87-6tpd A. H. McNEILL, C. C. C.

FROM THE NORTH.

Yankee papers of the 24th have reached Richmond. We copy elsewhere an interesting summary of the Congressional news. Of other news there is no great deal. But we annex all of interest.

Recapture of the Steamer Chesapeake—Great Excitement at Halifax.—The Northern papers announce the recapture of the Chesapeake. Her movements, since her first appearance at Shelbourne, had been closely watched by the U. S officials:

Tuesday the Ella and Annie, Lieut. Nickels, arrived for coal, and was immediately supplied at Cunard's wharf. She received information of the pirate at 11½ P. M., steamed for her, arriving at her rendezvous at 3 P. M., but the Chesapeake left at 9 A. M., of Wednesday, thus evading her pursuer.

The Ella and Annie immediately turned back and steamed for Lunenburg for orders, arriving in the evening. Meantime the officials securing information of the pirates being at Sambro, notified Lieut. Nickels, who immediately steamed for her, determined to take her, and at daylight Thursday accomplished it. The crew offered no resistance, but at the sight of the pursuers immediately fled to the woods, leaving a sumptuously prepared breakfast.

The Chesapeake was immediately taken in tow, and Lieut. Nickels started for an American port. The Dacotah soon came up and ordered Lieut. Nickels and prize into Halifax for sanction of the act by the government, where the three vessels arrived at four P. M.

The following dispatch, published in the Baltimore American, gives a detailed account of what transpired at Halifax after the arrival of the Chesapeake:

HALIFAX, Dec. 19.—At one o'clock this afternoon the steamer Chesapeake and the prisoners on board of her were delivered to the government. Upon the arrival of the boat at the Queen's wharf the excitement became intense; the prisoners were immediately seized by a boat's crew in the slip, and hurried off by a crowd in attendance. Upon the Government officers moving to arrest the prisoners under warrant, they were seized and held by prominent citizens, and were thereby rendered powerless to perform their duty. The crowd finally succeeded in getting the pirates off in a small boat, which forthwith moved down the bay. The affair causes the greatest excitement throughout this city. What course the authorities will pursue in this matter it is impossible to say. The pirates are all now at liberty scattered throughout the Provinces.

The following is the statement of First Engineer Johnson of the steamer Chesapeake:

After we left St. John, the first port we entered was Shelbourne, where we arrived on Thursday night. The next morning we left for Lahave river; seeing a steamer off the mouth of the river, we concealed our vessel as best we could, and ascended the river on Friday night. We laid to at this point until Tuesday night, discharging part of our cargo for which we received 1,000 dollars. On Wednesday we steamed for St. Mary's Bay. About ninety miles east of Halifax, at about 9 o'clock the following morning, we saw a steamer. We immediately concealed our vessel by hugging the shore. When the steamer disappeared we started again. We arrived off Sambro without meeting any further trouble, and were boarded by a pilot named Flynn who took the vessel into Sambro harbor.

Capt. Locke, now satisfying himself that there were not coals enough on board to complete the voyage, concluded to anchor the vessel, and he did so at 2 o'clock in the afternoon. In the meantime he started for Halifax to procure coals and engineers for the vessel. He told me (Johnson) that as soon as he obtained new engineers he intended to release me and I told him that I would not on any account remain with the vessel any longer. The Captain returned about 2 o'clock on the following morning, having been successful in his expedition.

A schooner came up with him about 6 o'clock on the same morning. The pilot, Mr. Flynn, informed the captain that the Federal gunboats were entering the harbor, and the Captain, satisfying himself that the statement was correct, ordered me (Johnson) to scuttle the vessel. I replied that I would not do it. The Captain then hastily secured what plunder he could, and he and his officers, and a portion of the crew, took to the boats as the Ella and Anna appeared in sight.

HALIFAX, N. S., Dec. 21.—There is nothing new to-day in regard to the Chesapeake affair. No arrests have been made of those who rescued the prisoners.

Another Chesapeake Affair.—NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—The steamship Morning Star, from New Orleans on December 13, via Havana on the 15th, has arrived. She brings as passengers Capt. James Nichols and Walker Greenough, supercargo of the schooner J. L. Gerety, which was captured by Confederates the second day out from Matamoras.

Capt. Nichols reports that he left Matamoras November 16th, bound for New York, with a cargo of cotton and six passengers. On the night of the 17th the passengers, with drawn revolvers, surprised and imprisoned the captain and crew, and took possession of the vessel. The Confederates, after keeping the crew in confinement eight days, put all hands in a small boat and told them to find their way to land the best way they could. They landed on the coast of Sisal, after two days and nights at sea. There they got passage to Havana.

The Reported "Terrible Mutiny" at Fort Jackson.—The "terrible mutiny" at Fort Jackson, of which we have had so many rumours, turns out nothing. We gather from the Northern papers the following account of it:

"The excitement occasioned here (New Orleans,) by the report of a mutiny at Fort Jackson on the 8th, has barely subsided yet. The most wild and improbable rumours prevailed, that every white man in the fort had been massacred, that the negroes were about to kill every white man in the vicinity, etc. The following are the facts:

"The negroes had taken offence at one of the officers in command and swore vengeance. In trying to get possession of his person they encountered more opposition than they anticipated, and fired some shots at random and into the air. But they never intended to create a mutiny or shed blood. Not a person was injured.

"The whole affair did not last half an hour. The officers easily quieted the men, and they have not since made any demonstration."

Federal Gunboat Destroyed.—A letter from Fortress Monroe says:—The steamer Spaulding, from Morehead City on Friday night, reports, that just before sailing, news reached there that the gunboat Daylight had been blown up by a shell from Fort Fisher exploding in her magazine.

Miscellaneous.—Butler, the Beast, has issued an order for the immediate enrollment of all able-bodied men, black and white, between the ages of eighteen and forty-five, in his military department.

General Corcoran, of the Army of the Potomac, died last Tuesday of injuries received from the falling of his horse.

Prisoners of War Received.—125 of Averill's raiders, captured along the route of his march, were received at the Libby on Friday night, Among them was a yankee Chaplain, and a son of the Attorney-General of the Pierpoint (gov't.)

AVERILL'S RAID.

An officer who participated in the recent fight between the forces under Gen. Wm. L. Jackson and the Yankees under Averill, gives us the following interesting narrative of that gallant affair:

On the 13th inst., scouts belonging to General Jackson's Brigade reported that a Yankee force of about 5,000 cavalry, including two batteries of artillery, were advancing down Back creek, towards Gatewood's, within twelve miles of Warm Springs, in Bath county.

Information had at that time been received from General Samuel Jones that a heavy force of Yankees was also advancing upon Lewisburg from the Kanawha Valley. Gen Jackson at once concluded that the force of 5,000 under Averill would strike for the Tennessee Railroad, by way of the Sweet Springs, and he immediately put his force in motion to intercept them on their return, as he could not pursue them, owing to having only about 125 mounted men, the balance of his command being dismounted infantry. Crossing at McGraw's Gap, Gen. Jackson came to Jackson's river, and found it swollen and past fording, with no bridge except the railroad bridge. Infantry could cross on that, but it seemed to be madness to attempt to cross wagons and artillery on it. Jackson, however, with indomitable energy and perseverance, had the wagons and artillery drawn over the bridge by the men. He then continued the march on to Callahan's, but from information derived from his scouts, he was convinced that Averill would return by the Rich Patch Road, which taps the Covington turnpike, near Jackson's river depot. He forthwith moved his command down to Jackson's river depot, and directed the Island Ford bridge to be burned as soon as it was ascertained that the enemy were advancing towards it. Jackson then took a strong position near the Jackson's river depot, at the point where the Rich Patch road connects the Covington turnpike. He then directed his mounted men under Capt. Sprague, to move on the Rich Patch road until they met the enemy's advance, and to attack them desperately, and cut the column in two, if possible. At 4 o'clock on Saturday evening, the 19th instant, a courier from Captain Sprague announced the approach of the enemy by that road, and that he had commenced a skirmish with Averill's advanced forces. Jackson immediately ordered an advance of the 20th Virginia reg't by a blind road so as to attack the enemy obliquely. He also ordered the 19th Virginia reg't to advance on the Covington turnpike road, and to attack the enemy directly. At that point Jackson conceived the idea of taking a detachment of about fifty men, and move forward with them for the purpose of striking the enemy vigorously, and cutting his column in two. In this Jackson succeeded perfectly. One half of the yankees were thus separated from the other half, which was under the immediate command of Averill, and who rapidly passed forward towards the Island Ford bridge. Persons entrusted with the burning of the Island Ford bridge failed to do so, however, owing to the rapid advance of the enemy upon that point. The advance, under Averill in person, thus managed to make their escape across the bridge, but that portion of his command which had been cut off, consisting of one regiment and an entire wagon train, were held in check by Jackson's detachment of fifty men during the entire night. Soon after sunrise on Sunday, the 20th, the heavy force which Averill had left at the bridge after he had crossed, to prevent Jackson from burning it, themselves fired it, and in a short time it fell into the river; and this produced much consternation among the Yankees who had been cut off from the Bridge by the detachment under Jackson. Had Jackson's order to attack the Yankees furiously not been so tardily obeyed, the whole force which had been cut off, together with the entire wagon train, would have been captured. By failing, however, thus to attack, the Yankees had time to burn their train, and to escape by swimming the river—in doing so, however, many of them were drowned.

The result of Jackson's operations was the complete capture of the Yankee ambulance train, about two hundred prisoners, their horses and equipments, a number of carbines and revolvers, forty or fifty negroes, (whom the Yankees were taking off,) eight of Averill's officers, including his Adjutant General, a Lieutenant Colonel, Averill's horse, his servant, and a number of his maps of fifteen or twenty countries, (in which nearly every house was put down, and, in numerous instances, the occupants of the houses given.) Jackson also captured a number of mules and wagons. Jackson's loss was small.—*Enq.*

THE TENNESSEE ARMIES

Correspondence of the Savannah Republican.

THOMASTON, GA., Dec. 20, 1863.—Having heard that some uneasiness was felt upon the subject, I called upon Gen. Hardee before leaving Dalton, and I have his authority for saying that he has not the least thought of retiring from his present position; but on the contrary, if the enemy should advance this winter, which he does not believe they will do, he will dispute every foot of ground from Tunnel Hill to Atlanta. He believes moreover, that if the absentees will return to duty and the people at home will continue to supply the army with the means of subsistence, the Federal army will never succeed in reaching Atlanta any more than it has succeeded in reaching Richmond.

But will Gen. Grant make a forward movement this winter? To do so, he must first accumulate large stores of subsistence at Stevenson or Chattanooga, and procure a fresh supply of horses and wagons to be used in conjunction with the railroad in the transportation of them. To complete these preparations, will require, not days nor weeks merely, but months. An army is an immense machine which can be moved only with much difficulty and expense. In the present instance, Grant would first have to repair the railway bridge at Bridgeport and Running Water (no easy matter at this season of the year,) reconcentrate his army at Chattanooga, bring up supplies, increase his trains and wagons, repair the Western & Atlantic railroad as he advances, and bring with him cars and locomotives to do his transportation. It is known that thousands of his horses perished or were disabled at Chattanooga and that Wheeler destroyed and captured over a thousand of his teams, and four or five times as many mules and horses, a few days after the battle of Chickamauga. It is known, too, that the Federal army encamped around Chattanooga was reduced to greater extremity for food than the Confederates have ever been, not because they did not have the supplies in the rear, but because they could not get them up. And the recent intelligence that portions of the army have gone towards Stevenson and Nashville, is all explained, it is believed, by the suggestion that they have been distributed along the railroad to the rear with a view to lessening the pressure upon Chattanooga, and for greater convenience to supplies If any troops have been sent to Virginia, they are probably the two Potomac corps which Hooker took to the assistance of Rosecrans, and which he is now returning to the Rappahannock.

For these reasons, in connection with the facts that the enemy has destroyed the Western and Atlantic railroad from Ringgold back to Chickamauga, and the Georgia and East Tennessee road from Cleaveland for the distance of several miles towards Dalton, one may safely conclude there will be no forward movement undertaken by the Federal army this winter. The Confederates have all gone into winter quarters.